New Musical Express

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WORLD'S **LARGEST** CIRCULATION OF **ANY** MUSIC PAPER

CLIFF talks about ELVIS

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PLUMPTON FESTIVAL REPORT

TOP POP NEWS

NOEL REDDING comments on FAT MATTRESS ALBUM

AMEN ANDY ?—TIME

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WHO and NICE STEAL PLUMPTON FESTIVAL

says RICHARD GREEN

THE Ninth National Jazz and Blues Festival can be summed up in just two words — Who, Nice. So far above all other groups were those two that any comparison would be ludicrous.

The Who topped on Friday night and quickly established the fact that they are still one of the world's loudest groups. It's quite possible that people in the villages around Plumpton Racecourse (surely one of the most inaccessible sites yet could have sat in their living rooms and listened to the group.

The WHO tearing the audience up at Plumpton in the Ninth National Jazz and Blues Festival on Saturday (l to r) JOHN ENTWISTLE, KEITH MOON (almost hidden), PETE TOWNSHEND and ROGER DALTREY.

But the loudness did not disguise the quality of the playing which has increased tremendously. The best part of the act consisted of a good deal of "Tommy" and this was the first time most people had had a chance to hear it "live."

All the guitar-smashing and mike throwing was included and the Who looked pleased with the way things were going — both musically and visually.

The visual bit got even better when a girl in a revealing dress came on stage during "Summertime blues" and began cavorting about.

There were numbers like "Shakin' All Over" and "I Can't Explain" and "Substitute" from the old days getting just as much attention as "Pinball Wizard" and the whole thing tore the audience up. An unqualified hit.

* * *

IT won't be long, the way things are going, before the Nice have to hire the Army to get to gigs. On Saturday they managed to assemble a fourty-three piece orchestra and the London Scottish Pipe Band to accompany them. And this is a trio.

Joseph Eger, the esteemed conductor of the New York Symphony Orchestra, came over to conduct the set which began with Brandenburger. It sounded tremendous with the orchestra and the applause when the Nice joined in was almost deafening.

Then we had "Kerelia" and the pipers appeared from the side of the stage and marched about. This the audience loved and they rose to the occasion like no one's business, cheering, whistling and clapping. Time allowed the Nice to do "She Belongs To Me" without any help, then they did a piece by Prokofiev which included a piece of "Rondo" during which Keith Emerson played the organ from behind.

After the ecstatic crowd had finished their long, drawn-out applause, I asked Lee Jackson if that was the ultimate in what the Nice could do now.

"No, this is just the embryo," he replied. "It's a question of where we can do it, not what we can do. If we could do it at Carnegie Hall with a full orchestra — that's between ninety and a hundred and twenty — we would.

"We did this tonight for the giggle of doing it and for the entertainment of the crowd."

Well, it was brilliant and I think I'll book my ticket for Carnegie Hall right now. (Unless some kind manager would like to cough up).

* * *

IT would have been nice to have seen Fat Mattress in action, but they arrived after the appointed time and weren't let on. Many veils shall be drawn over their reaction to that. Instead, on to Blodwyn Pig.

Finally making it as a big force, the latest of the hairy mobs opened with "Ain't You Coming Home" which let multi-instrumentalist Jack Lancaster show his paces. Then came "See My Way" from their next album. This had some unusual time changes and included a bit of Ravel's Bolero.

"Cat's Squirrel" had a lot of variations on Cream's version and some particularly good bass work by Andy Pyle. "It's Only Love" was a heavy rocker, and so prolonged was the applause that even after the next group started setting up, Pig came back and did "Summer Day" as an encore.

Exciting slice of Humble Pie

NEW TO THE CHARTS

I MUST admit, I was sceptical about their chances. What right had Peter 'Face' Frampton got to be in the same group as Greg Ridley, a fine bass player from Spooky Tooth? What right had Steve 'Onky' Marriott got to be anywhere but singing his heart out with Plonk, Mac and Kenny? And Jerry Shirley? Who was Jerry Shirley?

So I sat at my table at Ronnie Scott's, pulling chicken legs to pieces and waiting, along with many more seen-it-all-before journalists for the latest non-super group to blast our ears and minds wide apart.

Roughly 40 minutes later, I was on my feet, shouting for more, and I wasn't only asking for another lager. It was the same Marriott, cheeky, teasing, rough and raw and very, very good.

It was a different Frampton, hidden in the darkness, playing some nice guitar and organ that Andy Bown, sitting in the audience would have been proud of.

Fitted in well

Greg Ridley fitted in well soundwise and visually.

And once we spotted Jerry Shirley through the forest of cymbals, it was difficult to take your eyes off him. They played well together and obviously enjoyed the reception they received.

Buddy Holly's "Heartbeat," "Walk On Gilded Splinters," "Desperation," from their album were all very exciting. "Natural Born Bugie," which makes its debut this week at No. 29, uses the intro from Jerry Lee's "Little Queenie," but the rest is all Humble Pie. Try a slice as soon as you can. It's quite delicious.—GORDON COXHILL.

HUMBLE PIE pictured at last week's "Top Of The Pops" (l to r) STEVE MARRIOTT, PETER FRAMPTON, JERRY SHIRLEY and GREG RIDLEY.

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Question-time with AMEN ANDY

conducted by RICHARD GREEN

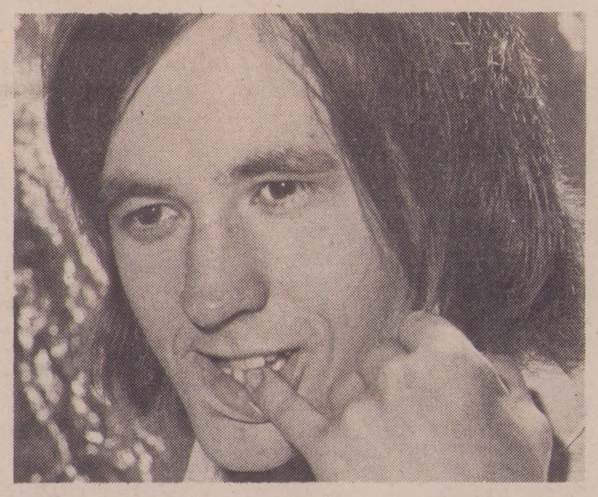
'NOW'S THE TIME TO CHANGE OUR SOUND'

ANDY FAIRWEATHER-LOW, it seems, having his fair share of troubles at the moment. His new American car has been claimed by the Customs men because no duty was paid on it and he is currently touring Sweden by air and flying is a thing he dislikes to the verge of paranoia.

Add to this the fact that he had to walk through a storm to meet me and you're not left with much transport for him. He can't go on buses because people pester him and he doesn't like tubes.

He was, that night, attempting to get home to Wales but had discovered that he might have to spend four and a half hours on a late train and arrive in the early hours.

So I consoled him with a Coke (he still refuses to pay homage to the great god Bacchus) and put some questions to him.



? ? ?

Q. It's been a long time since Corner's next album was mentioned. What's the position with it now?

A. It's just about finished. We're mixing the tracks of the famous "live" album we did at Tottenham Royal and we've almost completed the studio album. And Decca is putting ou a "World Of Amen Corner" album, so we'll have three out at about the same time.

? ? ?

Q. I can remember the "live" recording session, but can you tell me anything about the other albums?

A. We did five tracks for Decca because we didn't want them to put out all our old recordings. If they had, I'd have died. There was an agreement between Immediate and Decca for us to do it.

For the studio one, we've done about half new material and half well-known number like "Get Back," "Proud Mary," "To Love Somebody" and "The Weight." They're all numbers that were big when they came out, so I hope people still like them.

? ? ?

Q. Does all this mean you haven't had time to think about a follow-up to "Hello Susie" yet?

A. With three albums? No, we haven't yet, but now's the time to make the big switch if we're going to do it. The reason we didn't do "At Last I've Found Someone To Love" as the last single was it was too much like "Half As Nice."

? ? ?

Q. The other project you've been working on is "Scream and Scream Again," the horror film. Is that nearly ready for release?

A. I think so, it's finished anyway. It's a horror film with all the modern stars. Can you imagine it — Christopher Lee, Peter Cushing and Vincent Price? It's great!

There's a guy who can climb up a wall and seduce a girl. He meets her in a discotheque where we're playing. We play over the credits as well.

? ? ?

Q. Reverting to records again, have you had anything out in America since "Half As Nice" and do you think you'll ever tour there?

A. We did a version of "Susie" for America and it's so much better than the version we had out here. It's got a better sound, better quality, better production. It's turned out the way I kept thinking it could have been done here. I kept thinking about the things that could have been done. It's so much better.

"Half As Nice" didn't do anything in America, so we're really keeping our fingers crossed for this one. It's funny with America, groups like us and the Love Affair and people haven't been getting the hits, yet Deep Purple become big there before here.

I'd love to go, but it'd be a waste of time going over without a hit.

? ? ?

Q. You and Alan Price must be the two biggest haters of flying in the business. Have you tried to do anything about conquering your fear?

A. Pills and things don't work, I've tried them. When I went to America with our manager, we sat there holding each other's hands as we took off. I never thought we were going to make it. I've got a great fear of crashing and those two minutes before we hit the ground . . . . oh!

Yet we went to Haverford West, to the Naval Air Base, and they took us round the planes and we had a great time. They showed us a Tiger Moth and I'd like to go up in that. I'd feel safe in that, but not in the big ones.

? ? ?

With Andy was Neil Jones who had been absolutely silent, so, to be fair and encourage the lad, I asked him a question.

Q. Is there anything you'd like to say about anything for our readers?

A. . . . . (long pause, grin, long pause) . . . . . .

Andy came in with: Did you hear that. Yes, he did speak but he's got a high-pitched voice like those dog whistles. He has told you about his harem, his cut-price insurance company, his Bingo halls in Lancashire run by Mr. Briggs, his yachts in Yarmouth run by Mr. Bobbs and his guest house in Bournemouth run by Mrs. Johnson. Didn't you Neil?

— NO!

AMEN CORNER at a recent "Top Of The Pops" when they promoted their latest hit "Hello Susie" (l. to r.) MIKE SMITH, DENIS BYRON, ALAN JONES, ANDY LOW, NEIL JONES, organist BLUE WEAVER and CLIVE TAYLOR.

america calling

LED & EL

ROBERT PLANT of Led Zeppelin called this week just as he and his fellow group members were about to leave to see Elvis's show at the International in Las Vegas. Understandably we could only talk about Elvis and having just returned from Vegas I did more story-telling than interviewing.

Robert admitted "At one time or another everyone says, **'Oh, Elvis is rubbish, Elvis is no good,'** but everybody's got to own up in the end. Really, his potentiality is (and was) so strong. Apparently his act consists of nearly all rock and he's still movin' about, doing what he did before with an audience. So that must be like phenomenal!

"To me, his early career is fascinating. I was talking to **Jerry Wexler** at Atlantic Records, who was around in the early days and I was really interested because Elvis' early stuff was straight from the blues like 'That's Alright Mama.' Jerry told me about the time Elvis stood in for **Ray Charles** to a completely coloured audience (I think it was just when he started recording) and he went down in a storm!"

ANN MOSES

BRUCE in N.Y.

A SCOTSMAN who arrived unobtrusively last week in order to spend five days in New York gigging with America's top guitarists, was **Jack Bruce,** who worked out with **Larry Coryell** at Slugs, a rather interesting jazz place downtown in the Village.

"Right now I have no plans to form a group," Jack told me, "but I am working on a film for British television based on all the songs in my 'Tailor' album."

★

SHORTS: Canadian invasion of U.S. charts continues with the **Motherlove** hit single, When I Die. The **Guess Who,** meanwhile, are into the Top 20 with Laughing . . . Despite radio bans, both "Honky Tonk Women" **(Rolling Stones)** and "Give Peace A Chance" **(Plastic Ono Band)** are doing well here; **Bob Dylan's** single of "Lay Lady Lay" was surprisingly not banned . . . **Aretha Franklin's** latest, "Share Your Love With Me" (the only **Bobby Bland** hit) is Lady Soul's biggest in quite a while . . .

JUNE HARRIS

THE TEMPTATIONS
Cloud Nine
Tamla Motown TMG707

BOOKER T. & THE M.G.s
Soul Clap '69 Stax 127
C/W Mrs. Robinson

BOBBIE GENTRY
I'll Never Fall In Love Again
Capitol CL15606

THE GRASSROOTS
Midnight Confessions
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Find 'Em, Fool 'Em And Forget 'Em
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BRIAN HYLAND
Stay And Love Me All Summer
DOT 128

ANDY STEWART
Rainbows Are Back In Style
Columbia DB8608

THE GROOP
A Famous Myth
Bell BLL1070

E.M.I. Records (The Gramophone Co. Ltd.) E.M.I. House, 20 Manchester Square, London W1A 1ES

TOP SINGLES REVIEWED BY DEREK JOHNSON

UNUSUAL DISC HIT FOR TEMPTATIONS

TEMPTATIONS * Cloud Nine (Tamla Motown).

AM I wrong, or have the Temptations overtaken the Four Tops as Tamla's most popular male vocal group? Whether or not that is so, I reckon they've got a hit on their hands with this unusual disc.

It's the familiar Motown heavily-accentuated beat, but this time it's spiced with bongos, which gives it an exotic jungle-like quality.

It's an up-beat number, in which the solo is excitingly spirited and fervently blues-charged, while the other boys maintain their superb close-harmony rhythmic support.

I must confess that I was so spellbound by the fascinating and electrifying sound, that I didn't pay much attention to the lyric — so obviously it's not that important! This is Tamla with an air of voodoo mystique, and I shall be mortified if it's not a hit!

Superb Dionne

DIONNE WARWICK: Promises, Promises (Pye International).

A LOT of people believe that no - one can sing a Bacharach-David song quite like Dionne Warwick — probably because she benefits from scorings supplied by Burt Bacharach himself.

But there's another theory that, because of this close liaison, many of her singles tend to sound alike. I must admit that, when this first started i reminded me very much of "San Jose." But as the routine builds in intensity, and the whole thing becomes much more forceful and punch-packed, the illusion vanishes.

This is the title song from the new stage musical and, whilst it rates a superb performance from Dionne and a sizzling backing, I'm not convinced that it's got what it takes to survive out of context.

DICKIE ROCK: Uncle Tristan's Moonship (Pye).

● Joe Dolan has scored a breakthrough for Irish showbands, so maybe it's now Dickie Rock's turn. This is an amusing and highly topical novelty about an inventor nuthead who plans to follow in the footsteps of Apollo 11. A jaunty and gay number with a martial beat.

GRASSROOTS: Midnight Confessions (Stateside-Dunhill).

● A dynamic block-busting performance by the American quartet. There's a walloping up-tempo beat, shrill brass and an enveloping organ sound — coupled with an inspired uninhibited solo vocal, supported by ear-catching harmonies and hand-claps. It's a full satisfying sound, and the beat will go down a treat with dancers. But I'm just wondering if the material itself is sufficiently strong.

OTIS RUSH & HIS BAND: All Your Love (Blue Horizon).

● An authentic blues disc, in which Otis Rush's throaty blues-shouting is encased in a gritty backing of strident guitars, rasping saxes, pungent brass and a powerful up-beat rhythm section. Like most genuine blues, it's little more than a repetitive riff, but the connoisseurs will find it absolutely magnetic.

FOURMOST: Easy Squeezy (CBS).

● With a title like this, you'd expect a catchy little jingle that you can sing along with, and which doesn't place too great a strain upon the public's powers of assimilation. And that's precisely what you get.

A very commercial sound, showcasing some attractive falsettos and counter-harmonies from the Fourmost, plus a punchy brass backing. It's virtually in the bubblegum idiom.

MIRETTES: †Whirlpool (MCA).

● The Mirettes are three gals who broke away from the Ike and Tina Turner revue — and I don't need to tell you they're coloured, because that comes across in no uncertain terms in this insidious work-out. In some respects, it's a bit like a female version of "Higher And Higher," with its penetrating shuffle beat and scorching climax. Explosive, insistent r-and-b. A distinct Chart possible.

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL who look all set to get their second British hit with "Bad Moon Rising," reviewed below (L to r) TOM FOGERTY, STU COOK and DOUG CLIFFORD.

HILLBILLY ROCK FROM CREEDENCE

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL: * Bad Moon Rising (Liberty).

THE fishermen among you will be familiar with the old axiom that rocky water means clear water. And in this instance, it seems that rocky music means Clearwater, too! And like the good Chart fishermen they are, the Revival are obviously angling for another hit!

The title is rather untopical, what with Apollo and all — but don't let that deter you. This is good basic rock, and when I say that I don't mean the Haley variety.

It's country rock with a pronounced hillbilly tinge. The beat is infectious and demanding, the steely backing is earthy and jangling, the Fogerty tones are powerfully compelling in the solo, and the tune is simple but catchy.

Only thing I wasn't very keen on was the lyric, but that's relatively trivial compared with the overall effect. A disc which leaves you with the feeling of wanting to hear more.

BRIAN HYLAND: Stay And Love Me All Summer (Dot).

● Former chartster Brian Hyland dual-tracks a rhythmic ballad which will appeal to all the teenagers currently involved in a "calf love" affair. He's asking his girl friend not to go on holiday with her parents, but to stay in town with him. Snappy and commercial, with a rich orchestral backing, but a weak-ish melody.

Booker T. hits magic formula

BOOKER T. & THE M.G.'s: * Soul Clap '69 (Stax)

ALTHOUGH instrumental discs have a reputation for being Chart cinderellas, the Booker T. group seems to have hit upon the magic formula.

Their records are deeply impregnated with a soul feel, which ensures their topicality — unlike so many non-vocal items, which have a rather dated rock sound. And in spite of the nagging hypnotic beat which the boys never fail to generate, they always provide a fairly strong melodic content — and consequently, their work is appreciated equally by discotheque dancers and armchair listeners.

This latest offering is no exception. It's a slow-ish bluesy item, featuring Booker's sighing organ, wowing guitar and a pulsating beat — plus the hand-claps of the title.

The flip side, an exciting version of "Mrs. Robinson," makes this a value-for-money disc which will probably maintain the group's success.

Big sell song

ANITA HARRIS (CBS), BOBBIE GENTRY (Capitol): † I'll Never Fall In Love Again.

ANOTHER number from the Bacharach-David musical "Promises, Promises," and I imagine this will be the big show-stopper. Certainly it has a pleasantly lifting rhythm and a hummable tune, and it enables the singer to project her personality and song-selling ability to the utmost advantage.

Surprisingly, Bobbie Gentry's version has a heavy thump beat and a brash attacking scoring — and this, coupled with her delicious husky tones and cute Chickasaw accent, could possibly give her the commercial edge.

Personally, I prefer Anita's lighter and more wispy treatment, which I found more in keeping with the rather poignant and reflective lyric.

But both discs are well worth while, and your choice is dependent entirely upon personal taste, so hear them both before you buy. In any event, one of these lasses could well have a hit.

*** TIPPED FOR CHARTS**
† CHART POSSIBLE

CLINTON FORD: Lonelyville (Pye).

● The title is very explicit in itself — this is a plaintive country ditty about lost love, complete with jogging beat, wailing harmonica, background strings and a girl group joining in the chorus.

It gives Clinton Ford the opportunity to adopt his Jim Reeves image, and I must confess that he does so extremely well. An honest-to-goodness tear-jerker, strictly for the sentimentalists.

THE GROOP: A Famous Myth (Bell).

● An up-and-coming U.S. group comprising two boys and two girls, whose golden flowing harmonies bear a close affinity to the Mamas and Papas. The most outstanding feature of this disc is the delightful vocal blend, enchanced by a shimmering arrangement and steady beat. But I doubt if the material is strong enough.

JOHNNY MATHIS: Love Theme from 'Romeo And Juliet' (CBS).

● The instrumental version of this tune was a No. 1 hit in the States for Henry Mancini, and now comes this lyrical treatment with the sub-title "A Time For Us." I can only say that it's a beautiful melody, receiving an impeccably smooth performance by Johnny Mathis, with a scoring of celeste, horns, strings and heavenly voices. Rather like "The Impossible Dream," it is a quality song that will last indefinitely, but is unlikely to have instant chart appeal.

A TREMENDOUS RECORDING OF THE BURT BACHARACH/HAL DAVID SONG BY ANITA AND THE NEW WORLD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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I'll Never Fall In Love Again
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CBS
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From YOU to US

Singles shouldn't be put onto albums

Readers' letters should be sent to: Tony Bromley, New Musical Express, 112 Strand, London, W.C.2. Each week an LP record token will be awarded to the writer of the best letter.

IT is small wonder that singles sales are dropping and LP sales increasing when ex-single tracks are so frequently put on LPs. Those who have bought the single and then want to buy the LP have wasted eight-and-six.

Among the latest examples of this are "Dear Jill" by Blodwyn Pig on the LP "Ahead Rings Out," Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Proud Mary" on the LP "Bayou Country" and the Bonzo Dog Band's "I'm The Urban Spaceman" on the LP "Tadpoles."

It is completely unfair on the record buyer and is merely a way for the record companies to make more money. — **D. JOHNSON, London, S.E.22.**

LP TOKEN WINNER

YESTERDAY I bought five magazines to read about Elvis' Live Show and Comeback for the appalling total price of 4s 6d. One had no information on him at all, yet another had only two tiny pictures another had only two tiny pictures, another gave wrong information. The fourth paper had two super pics and a lot of writing.

But now to NME: it was the second cheapest of the papers and had such a lot of information and pictures. I was really thrilled reading it. Thank you. — **(Miss) J. LORD, Innsworth, Gloucester.**

A RECENT development in contemporary pop which seems to have been overlooked is the increasing number of violinists who are cropping up in various groups. We have Ric Grech (Blind Faith), Richard Koss (3rd Ear Band), John Weider (Family), Jet Zaphalia (Pegasus) and Dave Swarbrick (who has just joined Fairport Convention). I wonder if this heralds a more wistful, less violent trend in new music? — **MARGARET FOXALL, London, W.14.**

OK! OK!! OK!!! Let's get it over with once and for all! Who is the real King? Elvis or Tom? For a start, where would Tom Jones' act be without having Elvis' own example? And when was the last time Tom Jones defeated Elvis in the NME Poll? And how many years in succession has Elvis been voted the world's leading male vocalist? — **Elvis Presley Fan, Belfast.**

I HAVE JUST heard the biggest non ear event of the year. So this is all the "supergroup" Humble Pie could manage; "Natural Born Bugie." It is easily a mixture of "Get Back" and "Revolution" (extremely watered down of course.) Perhaps if it had been a good mixture I would have forgiven them but as it is . . . — **CHRISTINA LELSALL, Telford, Staffshire.**

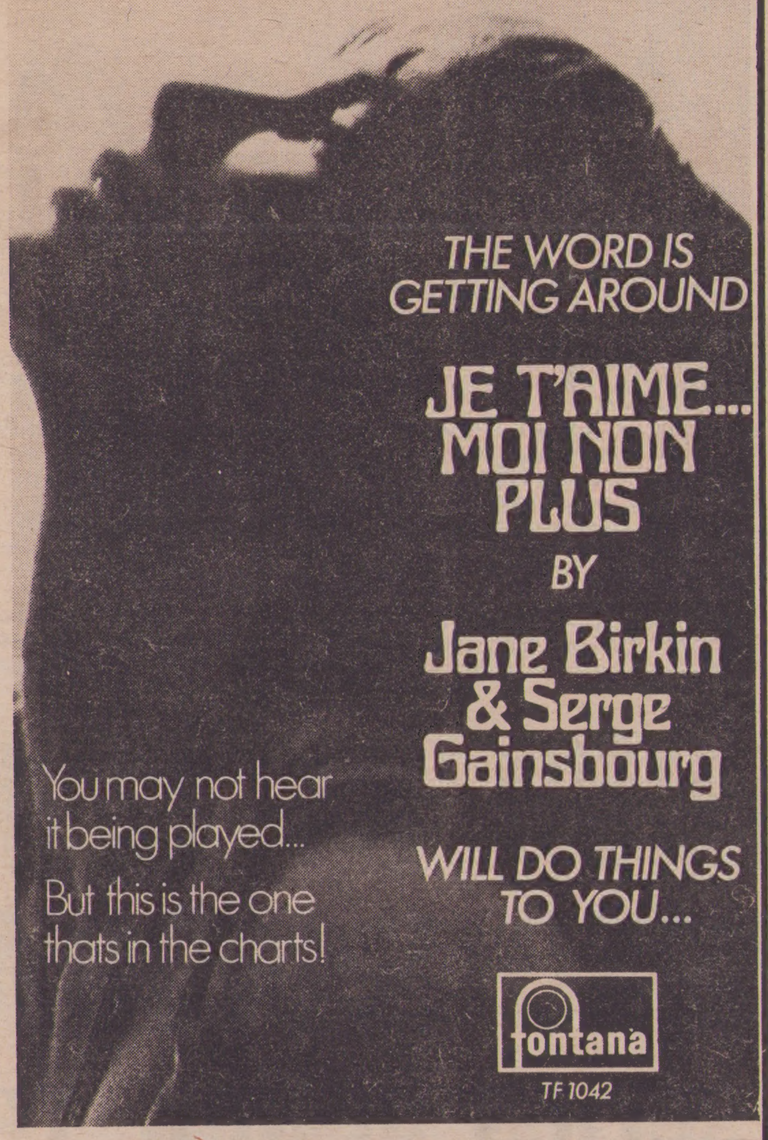
I SHOULD LIKE to come to the Beatles' defence over the chart placing of "Ballad Of John And Yoko" in America. A few weeks after its release "Cashbox" placed it no higher than number eight, even though it had been certified as a million seller while the first seven singles in the chart had not been so certified.

Could it be that "anti-blasphemy" record retailers in the USA deliberately gave it a lower chart placing when making their individual returns to the chart-compiling trade papers? — **IAN ANDERSON, Welling, Kent.**

CONGRATULATIONS TO Island Records. Up until a few months ago they didn't have a single in the charts for nearly a year. That record was "Harlem Shuffle." Then Jethro Tull recorded "Living In The Past" which was a big smash.

At the moment Jethro Tull have their first LP at No 1, the Fairport Convention with "Unhalfbricking" at No 8, and Blodwyn Pig's first LP has leaped straight into the charts now as well. Well done Island Records! — **CHARLES CALVO, Romford, Essex.**

LET'S face it: Andy Fairweather-Low just can't sing. Don't get me wrong, like him, but he can't sing. I know lots of people will write up and tell me I'm wrong but just listen to him, he sounds as though he's got something stuck in his throat. The music on "Hello Susie" drowns his voice, but all the same — he is fantastic! — **J. LAURIE, Blackwich.**


THE WORD IS GETTING AROUND
JE T'AIME... MOI NON PLUS
BY
Jane Birkin & Serge Gainsbourg
You may not hear it being played...
But this is the one thats in the charts!
WILL DO THINGS TO YOU...
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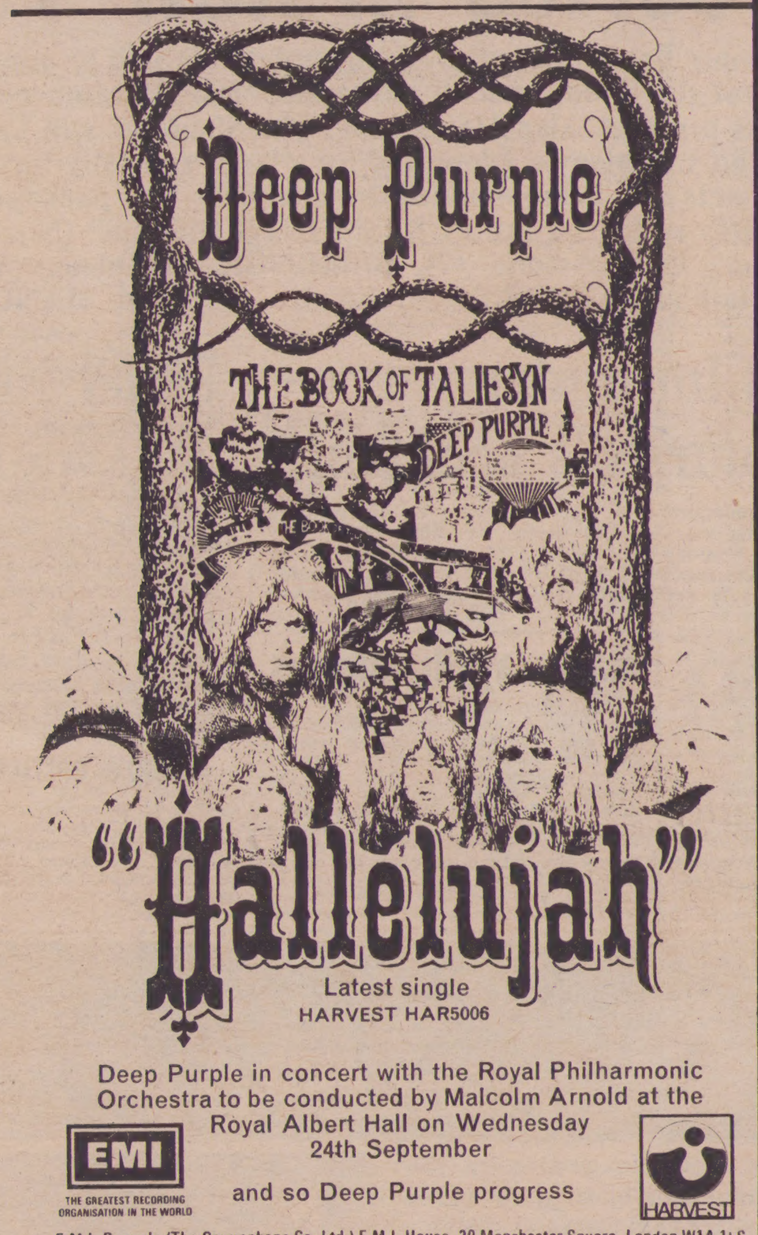
TF 1042


Deep Purple
THE BOOK OF TALIESYN
DEEP PURPLE
"Hallelujah"
Latest single
HARVEST HAR5006
Deep Purple in concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to be conducted by Malcolm Arnold at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday 24th September
and so Deep Purple progress
EMI
THE GREATEST RECORDING ORGANISATION IN THE WORLD
HARVEST
E.M.I. Records (The Gramophone Co. Ltd.) E.M.I. House, 20 Manchester Square, London W1A 1ES

NME TOP 30

(Week ending Wednesday, August 13, 1969)

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK			WEEKS IN CHART	HIGHEST POSITION
1	1	HONKY TONK WOMEN	Rolling Stones (Decca)	6	1
2	2	SAVED BY THE BELL	Robin Gibb (Polydor)	6	2
7	3	MY CHERIE AMOUR	Stevie Wonder (Tamla Motown)	5	3
3	4	GIVE PEACE A CHANCE	Plastic Ono Band (Apple)	6	2
6	5	MAKE ME AN ISLAND	Joe Dolan (Pye)	7	5
5	6	GOODNIGHT MIDNIGHT	Clodagh Rodgers (RCA)	5	5
4	7	IN THE GHETTO	Elvis Presley (RCA)	9	1
12	8	CONVERSATIONS	Cilla Black (Parlophone)	6	8
16	9	EARLY IN THE MORNING	Vanity Fare (Page One)	3	9
15	10	I CAN SING A RAINBOW/LOVE IS BLUE	Dells (Chess)	4	10
27	11	IN THE YEAR 2525	Zager & Evans (RCA)	2	11
8	12	IT MEK	Desmond Dekker (Pyramid)	7	8
10	13	BABY MAKE IT SOON	Marmalade (CBS)	8	9
14	14	GOO GOO BARABAJAGAL	Donovan & the Jeff Beck Group (Pye)	5	14
17	15	BRINGING ON BACK THE GOOD TIMES	Love Affair (CBS)	4	15
24	15	CURLY	Move (Regal Zonophone)	3	15
9	17	THAT'S THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT	Billy Preston (Apple)	6	6
20	18	TOO BUSY THINKING ABOUT MY BABY	Marvin Gaye (Tamla Motown)	3	18
19	19	WET DREAM	Max Romeo (Unity)	9	19
13	20	HELLO SUSIE	Amen Corner (Immediate)	8	4
11	21	SOMETHING IN THE AIR	Thunderclap Newman (Track)	9	1
28	22	VIVA BOBBY JOE	Equals (President)	2	22
22	23	PEACEFUL	Georgie Fame (CBS)	3	22
26	24	HEATHER HONEY	Tommy Roe (Stateside)	2	24
29	24	I'M A BETTER MAN	Engelbert Humperdinck (Decca)	2	24
21	26	WHEN TWO WORLDS COLLIDE	Jim Reeves (RCA)	6	21
●	27	SI TU DOIS PARTIR	Fairport Convention (Island)	1	27
●	28	GOOD MORNING STARSHINE	Oliver (CBS)	1	28
●	29	NATURAL BORN BUGIE	Humble Pie (Immediate)	1	29
●	30	NEED YOUR LOVE SO BAD	Fleetwood Mac (Blue Horizon)	1	30

Britain's Top 20 LPs

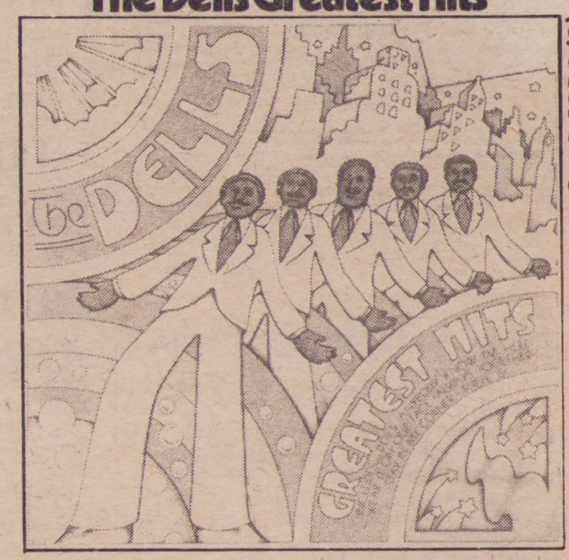
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK			WEEKS IN CHART	HIGHEST POSITION
1	1	STAND UP	Jethro Tull (Island)	3	1
4	2	2001 SPACE ODYSSEY	Soundtrack (MGM)	11	2
3	3	ACCORDING TO MY HEART	Jim Reeves (RCA)	8	2
2	4	FLAMING STAR	Elvis Presley (RCA)	8	1
6	5	HAIR	London Cast (Polydor)	28	3
5	6	THIS IS TOM JONES	(Decca)	9	1
18	7	LIONEL BART'S OLIVER!	Soundtrack (RCA)	18	4
●	8	FROM ELVIS IN MEMPHIS	Elvis Presley (RCA)	1	8
8	9	UNHALFBRICKING	Fairport Convention (Island)	3	8
10	10	BEST OF CLIFF RICHARD	(Columbia)	6	5
16	11	ON THE THRESHOLD OF A DREAM	Moody Blues (Deram)	17	1
15	12	AHEAD RINGS OUT	Blodwyn Pig (Island)	2	12
17	12	BEST OF THE SEEKERS	(Columbia)	38	1
12	14	LED ZEPPELIN	(Atlantic)	16	5
7	15	MY WAY	Frank Sinatra (Reprise)	11	1
●	15	AT SAN QUENTIN	Johnny Cash (CBS)	1	15
19	17	BEST OF GLEN MILLER	(RCA)	2	17
11	18	RAY CONNIFF, HIS ORCHESTRA, HIS CHORUS, HIS SINGERS, HIS SOUND	(CBS)	9	8
8	19	NASHVILLE SKYLINE	Bob Dylan (CBS)	15	1
13	20	THE WORLD OF VAL DOONICAN	(Decca)	31	4

Donovan
and The Jeff Beck Group
their new single
Barabajagal 7N 17778
Donovan's current album
A Gift From A Flower To A Garden

NPL 20000 (M) NSPL 20000 (S)

Jim Dale
his current single
Miss Linda Grey 7N 17751
his current album
Meet Jim Dale NSFL 18289 (S)

The Dells
their new single
Medley: Sing A Rainbow, Love Is Blue CRS 8099
their new album
The Dells Greatest Hits



CRLS 4554 (S)

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CHESS

5 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1964 Week ending Aug 14

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK		
2	1	DO WAH DIDDY DIDDY	Manfred Man (HMV)
1	2	A HARD DAY'S NIGHT	Beatles (Parlophone)
3	3	IT'S ALL OVER KNOW	Rolling Stones (Decca)
5	4	CALL UP THE GROUPS	Barron Knights (Columbia)
4	5	I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH MYSELF	Dusty Springfield (Philips)
6	6	TOBACCO ROAD	Nashville Teens (Decca)
17	7	HAVE I THE RIGHT	Honeycombs (Pye)
7	8	ON THE BEACH	Cliff Richard (Columbia)
8	9	I WON'T FORGET YOU	Jim Reeves (RCA)
9	10	I GET AROUND	Beach Boys (Capitol)

10 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1959 Week ending Aug 14

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK		
1	1	LIVING DOLL	Cliff Richard (Columbia)
3	2	BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS	Lonnie Donegan (Pye)
2	3	DREAM LOVER	Bobby Darin (London)
5	4	LIPSTICK ON YOUR COLLAR	Connie Francis (MGM)
4	5	BIG HUNK O' LOVE	Elvis Presley (RCA)
5	6	A TEENAGER IN LOVE	Marty Wilde (Philips)
9	7	LONELY BOY	Paul Anka (Columbia)
7	8	ROULETTE	Russ Conway (Columbia)
15	9	HEART OF A MAN	Frankie Vaughan (Philips)
8	10	PERSONALITY	Anthony Newley (Decca)

15 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1954 Week ending Aug 13

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK		
1	1	CARA MIA	David Whitfield (Decca)
3	2	LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT	Kitty Kallen (Brunswick)
2	3	THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN	Frank Sinatra (Capitol)
5	4	IDLE GOSSIP	Perry Como (HMV)
9	5	THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN	Four Aces (Brunswick)
4	6	WANTED	Al Martino (Capitol)
6	7	SECRET LOVE	Doris Day (Philips)
-	8	MY FRIEND	Frankie Laine (Philips)
8	9	WANTED	Perry Como (HMV)
11	10	OH, BABY MINE	Four Knights (Capitol)

BEST SELLING POP RECORDS IN U.S.

By courtesy of "Cash Box."

(Tuesday, August 12, 1969)

Last This Week		
2	1	HONKY TONK WOMAN, Rolling Stones
1	2	IN THE YEAR 2525, Zager & Evans
6	3	A BOY NAMED SUE, Johnny Cash
4	4	SWEET CAROLINE, Neil Diamond
3	5	CRYSTAL BLUE PERSUASION, Tommy James & Shondells
7	6	BABY I LOVE YOU, Andy Kim
9	7	RUBY, DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE TO TOWN, Ken Rogers & First Edition
13	8	PUT A LITTLE LOVE IN YOUR HEART, Jackie De Shannon
15	9	LAUGHING, Guess Who
11	10	POLK SALAD ANNIE, Tony Joe White
5	11	MY CHERIE AMOUR, Stevie Wonder
10	12	WHAT DOES IT TAKE, Jr. Walker & All Stars
14	13	MY PLEDGE OF LOVE, Joe Jeffrey Group
20	14	GIVE PEACE A CHANCE, Plastic Ono Band
17	15	I'D WAIT A MILLION YEARS, Grass Roots
	16	LAY LADY LAY, Bob Dylan
26	17	GET TOGETHER, Youngbloods
	18	GREEN RIVER, Creedence Clearwater Revival
21	19	SOUL DEEP, Box Tops
8	20	QUENTIN'S THEME, Charles Randolph Green Sound
29	21	MARRAKESH EXPRESS, Crosby, Stills & Nash
12	22	MOTHER POPCORN, James Brown
27	23	CHOICE OF COLOURS, Impressions
18	24	RECONSIDER ME, Johnny Adams
30	25	WORKING ON A GROOVY THING, 5th Dimension
	26	SUGAR, SUGAR, Archies
16	27	GOOD OLD ROCK 'N ROLL, Cat Mother & the All Night News Boys
-	28	EASY TO BE HARD, 3 Dog Night
-	29	HURT SO BAD, Lettermen
-	30	MUDDY RIVER, Johnny Rivers

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Aretha, Fudge, Pickett plans

LONDON'S Royal Albert Hall has been provisionally booked for a concert by soul star Aretha Franklin on Tuesday, November 4. Promoter Arthur Howes is setting up a string of European dates for Aretha, and these are likely to include one or two additional British dates. But it is stressed that negotiations with the singer's management have not yet been finalised.

Wilson Pickett's three British concerts at the end of September — revealed in last week's NME — will be in London, Manchester and Belfast. Full details are not yet set, but he will be supported by his own ten-piece band and another leading American act.

Vanilla Fudge arrives here on Sepiember 23, and plays London Lyceum's Midnight Court three days later (26). A further date at Birmingham Mothers has still to be confirmed.

Arthur Conley November tour

U.S. soul star Arthur Conley — who had an NME Chart hit with "Sweet Soul Music" in 1967 — is to tour Britain from November 7 to 30. An extensive schedule of club and ballroom dates is being lined up for him by the Arthur Howes office, and it is expected that Conley will also undertake TV dates during his visit.

NEXT ELVIS DISC: BIG CONTROVERSY

ELVIS PRESLEY'S follow-up to his smash hit LP "In The Ghetto" is being issued by RCA on August 29 — it is "Clean Up Your Own Back Yard," currently at No. 53 in the U.S. chart. And this has sparked off a controversy between RCA and the country's disc jockeys. Club who want to see the flip side, "The Fair Is Moving On," nominated as the official "A" side in this country.

A letter has gone out to all 90,000 club members, asking them not to request "Clean Up Your Own Back Yard" on the radio. It is also suggested that they ask specifically for "The Fair Is Moving On" when purchasing the disc. Club secretary Todd Slaughter has also written to all disc-jockeys and record reviewers asking them to give preference to "The Fair Is Moving On," which was penned by the British team of Doug Flett and Guy Fletcher.

Comments Slaughter: "'Clean Up' is a most unconventional track, and it certainly wouldn't knock our pop charts for six. Besides, it comes from a Presley film not due to be shown for some considerable time in this country." RCA Records had no comment to make on the situation.

● This year's Elvis Presley Fan Club Convention will be staged at Leicester's De Montfort Hall on Sunday, September 21.

Barry Gibb forms own disc company

BEE GEE Barry Gibb has formed his own record company called Diamond. It will concentrate on coloured artists and will have a "gospel and spiritual feel." Commented Barry: "Three-quarters of the coloured singers in Britain are ignored, and I plan to take advantage of this oversight."

Barry will produce the artists himself and has already signed P. P. Arnold, from whom a release is expected within the next few weeks. She has already cut three of Barry's compositions with vocal backing by Madeline Bell, Doris Troy and Rosetta Hightower. Tipped as the label's first single is Pat Arnold's "Angel Of The Morning Down By The River," which was originally considered by the Bee Gees as the follow-up to their "Tomorrow Tomorrow."

★ POPLINERS ★

SOLO concert by Petula Clark at London's Royal Albert Hall now set for Tuesday, October 28. ● David Bowie won first prize in Italy's Festival Internazionale Del Disco for his self-penned "When I Live My Dream." ● Today (Friday) Crispin St. Peters begins five-week tour of Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. ● Prior to leaving for America, Chicken Shack appears at Hampstead Country Club on Sunday, August 24. ● Juniors Eyes, Strawbs, David Bowie and John Peel among artists in free concert at Beckenham Recreation Ground tomorrow (Saturday). ● Robert Palmer, formerly with Mandrake Paddle-steamer, is new lead singer with the Alan Bown. ● Joe Dolan being lined up for tour of British ballrooms in September.

AN AUSTRALIAN AFFAIR!

LOVE Affair's on-off tour of Australasia is now definitely ON! The group flies out from London in mid-October for 17 days of TV and concerts in Australia, with a provisional opening date of October 23. This will be followed by four days in New Zealand. It is likely that the Affair will then fly direct to Japan for a two-week visit centred on Tokyo. Another overseas trip for the group is an eight-day tour of Germany and Switzerland from September 21. It makes its cabaret debut this Sunday (17) with a week at Stockton Tito's doubling Newcastle Dolce Vita.

VANITY AROUND EUROPE

VANITY FARE is to undertake an extensive eight-country European tour throughout October and November. Manager Roger Easterby is currently lining up the tour, which includes visits to Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Denmark and Norway. In these countries, the tour is mainly for promotional TV appearances on its current British hit "Early In The Morning" — which climbs to No. 9 in this week's NME Chart — although the group will also play some concert dates. The European schedule is completed by a more extensive concert tour of Sweden.

SYMBOLS' RECORD DEAL

THE Symbols, whose recording contract with President expired last month, are currently negotiating a new deal with a major U.S. disc company — for whom they are expected to sign in the near future. The group leaves for America on September 1 — playing cabaret on the s.s. "France" on the way over — and opens a five-week U.S. tour in Boston on September 12. While in the States, the Symbols will cut a single and LP for their new recording company. The group then flies direct to Japan for ten weeks of cabaret engagements in and around Tokyo.

COMMITTEE DISC DEBUT

A NEW group from Cambridge, the Committee, will make its disc debut on Pye on September 12 with a Tony Macaulay-John Macleod composition titled "Sleep Tight Honey." This number was originally penned with a view to the Foundations waxing it, but has been given to the Committee following the split between Macaulay-Macleod and the Foundations. John Macleod produced the session. The Committee is described as "similar to the Foundations, but with more of a Tamla feel." Readers may consider that the group even looks like the Foundations!

U.S. RETURN BY BONZOS

FOLLOWING its highly successful American debut tour this spring, the Bonzo Dog Band has been booked for its second U.S. visit — it opens on September 26 and runs through until mid-November, with a coast-to-coast itinerary of concert and college dates. The band has also been booked for the Isle of Wight Festival on August 29. Other British dates include Sunderland Locarno (tonight, Friday), Dunstable California (Saturday), Eastbourne Winter Gardens (August 23), Malvern Winter Gardens (September 1) and Middlesbrough Showboat (12 and 13).

BUSY AUTUMN FOR NICE

THE Nice's six-week American tour, due to have begun this week, has been postponed until November 14. Because of this, the group is now to undertake a string of eight continental visits. Already set are concert and TV dates in Belgium, Germany (three separate visits), Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Austria — plus an extensive tour of Scandinavian colleges in mid-September. A new single by the group will be issued in Britain and Europe next month. The Nice has also been added to the Isle Of Wight Festival on August . (see separate story).

REPRISE CAPTURES MAC

FLEETWOOD Mac has signed a three-year recording deal with Warner-Reprise for worldwide distribution on the Reprise label. This follows the group's break from Immediate Records, exclusively revealed in the NME two weeks ago. The new contract is a considerable achievement for Warner-Reprise, in the face of strong competition from Apple, who had been favourites to sign Mac. Under the terms of the deal, the group will also introduce new artists to the label and produce them personally. First Mac release on Reprise will be its "Then Play On" LP on September 19.

MAJOR CONCERT TOUR BY CLIFF AND RE-FORMED SHADOWS

Cliff's own TV series in New Year

CLIFF RICHARD is to star in a string of major British concerts in November. He will be supported by the re-formed Shadows, comprising three of the group which disbanded last December — Hank Marvin, Brian Bennett and John Rostill — plus organist Alan Hawkshaw. The Shadows will be featured in their own act, as well as backing Cliff — who will also be supported by a large specially-formed orchestra which Brian Bennett will conduct. Other acts are being booked to complete the package line-up, which is being promoted by Arthur Howes. Dates so far set are PORTSMOUTH Guildhall (November 5), CROYDON Fairfield Hall (6), LONDON Finsbury Park Astoria (7), BIRMINGHAM Odeon (8), NEWCASTLE City Hall (12), SHEFFIELD City Hall (13), LIVERPOOL Empire (14) and MANCHESTER Odeon (15).

As previously reported, Cliff and the new-look Shadows play a three-week tour of Japan in October. Before this the Shadows on their own star in a week's cabaret at Stockport Poco-A-Poco from September 9. It is not, however, expected that the Shadows will remain together permanently as a group — although they may join Cliff for a few isolated dates next year.

Meanwhile, Cliff is to star in his own TV series early in the New Year. He will be featured in six BBC-1 shows, to be screened weekly at a peak hour. They will be produced by Michael Hurll, who was also responsible for the two Cilla Black series, among others. Although the format has not yet been determined — it is not yet known whether the Shadows will participate — it is likely that Cliff's shows will each be of 45 minutes duration.

Newman, Shack, Kinks in Hull Pop Festival

THUNDERCLAP NEWMAN, Chicken Shack and the Pretty Things star in an all-night rave at Burton Constable Hall, near Hull, on Friday, August 22 (9 pm-7 am). Also taking part are the Third Ear Band, Clouds and Eire Apparent. Tickets are priced at £1.

This is part of the three-day Humberside Pop Festival, which also includes a gala dance at Hull City Hall on Saturday, August 23—with the Kinks and the Web. The following day (24), Barclay James Harvest and the Edgar Broughton Band are in a free open-air concert at Hull East Park.

FAME, PRICE TO SCORE MOVIES

FOLLOWING the news of their co-starring BBC-1 series "Price of Fame" to be screened in the autumn, Alan Price and Georgie Fame were this week involved in negotiations to write musical scores for two major films. On Monday, Alan was invited to a special screening of "Spring In Port Wine," with a view to him supplying the musical content.

Georgie—whose "Peaceful" single is at No. 23 in the NME Chart—has been invited to join the music for "Entertaining Mr. Sloane." Fame is currently on holiday, but will resume cabaret engagements in September. The two films, for which Alan and Georgie may compose the music, are both for late autumn release.

Gees' TV film under way— despite Maurice's accident

DESPITE Maurice Gibb sustaining a fractured bone in his forearm last weekend, shooting on the Bee Gees' TV film "Cucumber Castle" got under way on Monday on schedule. A multi-million dollar deal, involving the sale of the special to British and U.S. TV, is expected to be announced shortly. As previously reported, executive producer Robert Stigwood now plans to extend the show into a 13-week series.

Director Mike Mansfield has now decided against flying to Hawaii to film Blind Faith's concert there, extracts from which would have been included in "Cucumber Castle"; instead, the special will now feature a filmed insert from Blind Faith's concert in Hyde Park in June.

This is because the complete film of the London concert is unlikely to be offered to TV companies for several months. Commented a spokesman: "We are waiting for Blind Faith to make its full impact in the States before opening negotiations on its Hyde Park TV special."

Macaulay film themes

Tony Macaulay is to write the theme song and incidental music for the film "Picture Of Dorian Gray," starring Laurence Harvey. He is already writing the music for the David Niven movie "The Brain," and another new British picture, "Look It's Raining." Tony — who returned recently from Detroit, where he waxed four of his songs with the Everly Brothers — is opening his own London office to deal with his writing and production interests.

ROBIN MAY BE WAXING DAVY

Monkee Davy Jones — currently on a two-week visit to Britain — spent last Friday evening at the home of Robin Gibb, sorting through Robin's compositions. It is likely Robin will fly to California within the next two weeks to produce a record of Davy singing one of his songs.

OHIO'S BRITISH SONG

The latest single by Ohio Express, issued in America last week, is a composition by British writer Graham Gouldman titled "Sausalito," it was recorded in Stockport during the group's recent British visit.

NEW SINGLES BY— Isleys, Who, Elephant, Nash, Beatle George

NEW singles by the Isley Brothers, the Who, Crazy Elephant and Roy Orbison have been scheduled for release. Beatle George Harrison has a solo disc coming out. Esther Ofarim sings a Mason Williams composition on her first solo single. Release date of Johnny Nash's new disc is now confirmed. Also set are singles by Otis Redding, the Impressions and Jimmy Young.

Crazy Elephant's follow-up is titled "Sunshine Red Wine" and is issued by Major Minor on August 29. Out the same day are the Who's "Go To The Mirror" (Track), Otis Redding's "Free Me" (Atco), Johnny Nash's "Love And Peace" (Major Minor), the Impressions' "Choice Of Colours" (Buddah) and Jimmy Young's "You No One But You" (Polydor).

Roy Orbison's "Penny Arcade" is released by London next Friday (22). The Isley Brothers' second single on the Major Minor label is "I Turned You On," out on September 5. Esther Ofarim's "Saturday Night At The World" is scheduled by Philips for September 26.

Beatle George Harrison plays harmonium and guitar on a single of the Indian religious chant "Hare Krishna," recorded by him and featuring members of the Krishna sect, which is released by Apple on August 29. Coupling is "Prayer Of The Spiritual Masters."

The Nice's third album, titled simply "Nice," is released by Immediate next Friday. One half, featuring Dylan's "She Belongs To Me" and Keith Emerson's "Rondo '69," was recorded live at New York Fillmore East.

Amen Corner's next LP will be issued by Immediate next Friday. Titled "National Welsh Coast Live Explosion Company," it was recorded live at Tottenham Royal.

EQUALS' THREE-MONTH WORLD-WIDE TRAVELS

THE Equals — whose "Viva Bobby Joe" climbs to No. 22 in this week's NME Chart—are likely to undertake a world tour from mid-October, which would keep them away from Britain for over three months. Agent Terry Young is currently finalising details of the tour, which would open with a three-week itinerary of concerts in Brazil, Argentina and Mexico.

This would be followed by almost a month in America, where their current British hit is being released on the Laurie label next Friday (22). The group would undertake promotional dates on this disc as well as playing concerts and colleges.

Next leg of the tour would take the Equals to Japan for two weeks, followed by three weeks in Australia. Only part of this schedule which is not yet confirmed is the Japanese visit, and—if this fails to materialise—the group will return to Britain for two weeks of concerts here before travelling on to Australia.

LIVE LP OF DYLAN CONCERT

A LIVE album of Bob Dylan's Isle of Wight concert is likely to be recorded by CBS. The singer is writing new material specially for the event — his first official performance for four years — and he has already given tentative approval to the suggestion that his act should be recorded. It is hoped to issue a "Bob Dylan At The Isle Of Wight" LP (or possibly even a double-LP) towards the end of the year. But if this proves impracticable for technical reasons, extracts from his British concert will be included in his next studio album. As previously reported, Dylan's eagerly-awaited appearance is on Sunday evening, August 31.

Promoters Ray and Ron Foulk have now added a third day to the Isle of Wight Festival. For fans arriving early at the venue, the event now opens on Friday evening, August 29 — with performances by the Nice, the Bonzo Dog Band, the Alan Brown, Eclection, Heaven and the Eric Broughton Band, plus a non-stop discotheque. And the Friday session is free of charge!

Bookings of over 90,000 have already been taken for the festival, including 20,000 from abroad. Fifteen charter planes are known to be flying in from America, and among their passengers will be 300 U.S. pressmen and photographers. The Rolling Stones (with the exception of Mick Jagger) will be among British visitors, and Keith Richard has hired a private yacht for the occasion.

A total audience well in excess of 200,000 is now expected for the festival, which is being staged at Woodside Bay, near Ryde. Accommodation will be provided in a festival village, complete with hundreds of tents and a wide range of shops. British Rail is running special trains and ferries to the island. Full line-up of artists for the event was published in the NME two weeks ago.

SAMMY: LONDON CABARET

Sammy Davis is to star in a ten-day cabaret season at London's Talk Of The Town theatre-restaurant from Monday, August 25. This confirms the exclusive forecast by NME's Alley Cat four weeks ago.

BBC BUYS 24 STAR-PACKED ANDY WILLIAMS TV SHOWS

Davy Jones—Harry Secombe duet in Ernie Ford special

BBC-TV has bought 24 editions of the new "Andy Williams Show" series, which goes into production in America next month. Two years ago, Williams announced he was giving up making a weekly show in order to concentrate on occasional specials. But he is now reverting to the weekly format in view of public demand. The new series will be screened by BBC-1 starting in the autumn — an exact date has not yet been scheduled, but it could be as early as the end of September. Among guests appearing in the first few shows are Ray Charles, Petula Clark, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Donovan, Nancy Sinatra, Jose Feliciano, Rowan and Martin, Tiny Tim and Peter, Paul and Mary.

Harry Secombe joins Monkee Davy Jones in the Tennessee Ernie Ford special "Pea-Picker in Piccadilly," which ATV is currently filming in London. In one sequence, Harry and Davy duet "Consider Yourself" from "Oliver!" The show will be screened in Britain in November, soon after the start of ITV's colour service. American transmission is timed for November 24.

Frank Ifield, Joan Regan and Don Lang and the Frantic Five are the musical guests in BBC-1's "Were Those The Days" on Bank Holiday Monday (September 1). The programme recalls some of the big TV names of the 1950s.

Peter Sarsted's own BBC-2 series is now set to commence on Wednesday, October 1. On the same channel, the Four Freshmen and Maggie Fitzgibbon star in "International Cabaret" on Saturday, August 23; and the Fortunes' appearance in "Colour Me Pop" is put back to the following Saturday (30), and this will be the final edition of the series.

"Music, Music, Music" begins an eight-week run in BBC-1's Saturday-night variety spot tomorrow (16), and this will be followed on October 11 by four Dave Allen shows which will feature pop guests.

Ken Dodd and the Diddymen begin a new BBC-1 children's series on Sunday, October 5. This will be preceded by a special Bank Holiday edition on Sunday, August 31.

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NEWMAN: U.S. TOUR OFF TILL SPRING, TWO MEMBERS QUIT

THUNDERCLAP NEWMAN'S projected American tour with the Who and Marsha Hunt, planned for October, has been postponed until the spring. Arthur Brown is also being considered for the package, which will consist of artists contracted to the Track label. The six-week tour will begin in mid-April, probably in New York. It will be the first major tour for Newman since its formation at the beginning of this year.

Two members of the Newman group left last Friday to form their own band. They are bassist Jim Pitman-Avery and drummer Jack McCulloch. They were the two newest members of the group and did not play on its No. 1 hit "Something In The Air." They will not be replaced, and Newman will continue as a trio (see page 8).

No decision has yet been reached regarding the release of "Accidents" as the follow-up single to "Something In The Air," according to the group's recording manager Pete Townshend.

JETHRO NEWIE SOON

A new Jethro Tull single will be issued next month, to coincide with the opening of the group's British concert tour on September 25. Tull, currently touring America, returns to this country in a fortnight and spends the first three weeks of September in the recording studios. These sessions are also expected to produce another album as a follow-up to the group's chart-topping "Stand Up."

U.S. r-and-b invasion

British ballroom and club tours by several leading U.S. r-and-b artists have now been finalised. Among those for whom dates are being set during the autumn are the Drifters (September 12-November 30), Brenton Wood (September 19-October 5), Jimmy Reed (October 10-26), the Platters (October 10 for an indefinite period), the Toys (October 17-November 2), Howlin' Wolf (October 24-November 9), Lowell Fulsom (October 24-November 9), Freddie King (October 31-November 16), inez and Charlie Foxx (November 7-23) and Otis Spann (November 14-30). The Ronettes' current British tour, due to have ended next week, has been extended until August 31.

info from Decca

If you've walked past Decca House recently, you will have heard strange music blasting out of my window. And you'll have heard the same music a couple of times on John Peel's show. 'Amazing grace' by THE GREAT AWAKENING is released as a London single this week. If your taste in music is a bit subdued, you probably won't believe this the first time you hear it, but persevere—it's worth getting into. It's actually an adaptation of an old American revivalist hymn—the thing to sing in the Southern States in about the twenties; it conjures up images of cotton gins and dust-bowls, Sunday prayer meetings and prison farms. A marvellous home-made sound, I hope this will sell thousands of copies to thousands of amazingly graceful people. The number is HLU 10284.

I don't like putting tags on music, especially as some of the best things fall into absolutely no existing category. But sometimes some kind of description is helpful as a guide. The music that BREAD LOVE AND DREAMS write, play and sing is folk-based with intelligent, thoughtful lyrics. Angela, Carolyn and David are three friends from Scotland, all with an abundance of musical ideas. On their first single, 'Virgin kiss', David sings lead and there is some superb acoustic guitar. They have an album out soon, too, so keep an ear on them. Number of their single is Decca F 12958.

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EL'S TRIUMPH MAKES RIVAL CLIFF SO HAPPY

By GORDON COXHILL

A LOT of people were very pleased to see Elvis back at No. 1 with "In The Ghetto," not least amongst them our own one-time rocker who came up in the same era as Elvis, Cliff Richard. "Yes," Cliff told me last week, "it was nice to see him right back at the top. I still think he's got one of the best white voices around, and that song was so good.

"Elvis has been coming back in a big way for some time now. I think he must be putting more effort and thought into it these days, because the songs he has released recently have been so much better.

"For a while he went through a lean spell, when his records and films weren't really up to much. Perhaps Elvis has realised that he wanted to do something more worthwhile, and 'In The Ghetto' is that all right.

"I see his album 'Flaming Star' is doing very well. All it wants now is for Elvis to come to Britain . . ."

Good job

Recordwise, "Big Ship" did a good job in keeping up Cliff's own chart consistency. I asked him how his tastes in songs had changed in recent years.

"Well, I suppose as one matures, one's tastes change, and get more sophisticated. 'Big Ship' was one of those nonsensical things that I love to record now and again.

"I still stick to the same old fashioned method of picking a song to record. When I first hear a batch, I put all the ones I like on one side.

"Then, perhaps a few weeks, perhaps months later I play them again. If I still like them, I'll record them.

"It could easily be three months between the time I first hear a song, and when I go into the studios, but once I've really got to like a song, I very rarely change my mind about it.

"I will be bringing out a single soon with Hank Marvin called 'Throw Down A Line.' Hank wrote the song, and I'm looking forward to its release very much.

Sad song

"There's another of Hank's songs which I'm going to do, about old people being thrown out of their homes because a motorway is being built right through them. There was a time when I wouldn't have thought of recording a song like that."

Does Cliff think singles still have much importance today?

"I don't think singles have had any real importance for several years now. Albums are the thing now, and I'm sure that trend is going to continue.

"Mind you, it still gives me a kick to see one of my records climbing up the charts. Every time I turned on the radio in the past few weeks, it seemed 'Big Ship' was on.

Worried

"I got a bit worried that too many plays might harm the sales, but the record did well anyway. Come to think of it, I don't suppose there are many people who can listen to the radio all day."

Immediate plans for Cliff are a 12 day crusader camp "somewhere in the country" and a holiday at his villa in Portugal.

"The camp is a holiday with responsibility," he said.

"Obviously the idea is take the boys on a holiday, where they can relax, and then try and pass on some idea of the message of Christianity. It's great fun, and the adults usually go home learning something as well!

"The boys are very exuberant, and I usually find myself getting roped in for playing football and cricket. It's good for the waistline.

"Then I'm off to Portugal to recuperate. I haven't been to the villa for two years, and it seems a bit silly to have a place in the sun and not use it. When I come back, there's a week's cabaret in Stockton to do.

"I'll have a new album out by then, but at the moment, LPs don't need much promotion, so I won't have much work to do on that.

"I'll be going off to Japan for a twelve day tour. I always enjoy going there, everybody is so friendly and helpful."

Will Cliff be appearing in panto this year?

"No, I won't have the time this year, because I start a BBC television series in January, and I couldn't manage both.

"I'm one of those people who can work for a long time, providing one thing follows the other, but I can't do two things at once. I'd be in a terrible state."

Cliff also told me that he'd like to start touring again, at least in a limited way (see centre pages).

"I couldn't undertake a full-length tour, even if I wanted to, but it would be nice to play a number of one-nighters in a year.

"I would meet some new audiences, and apart from anything else, I like a change in routine sometimes."

Touring

And talking of touring, I asked Cliff if he'd stayed up to watch the moon landing after appearing on David Frost's marathon TV show that memorable night, on which Cliff said he thought the achievement was marvellous, but a bit premature.

"No, I didn't," he admitted. "I went home and was in bed by half past one. It might have been premature for Mankind but it was rather too late for me that night."

THE ZOMBIES

It has come to the attention of THE ZOMBIES that as they are not making any personal appearances in the United Kingdom at present, other groups are illegally attempting to appear under the name THE ZOMBIES.
Any person or group persisting in this illegal action will be sued immediately.
Members of the entertainment industry are reminded that THE ZOMBIES are exclusively CBS recording artists, and that all enquiries relating to THE ZOMBIES should be addressed to:
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LIFE-LINES of THUNDERCLAP NEWMAN

THUNDERCLAP NEWMAN, in glasses, with (l to r) JOHN SPEEDY KEEN, JIM PITMAN-AVERY now quit group, JIMMY McCULLOCH and JACK McCULLOCH also quit, see below.

Professional name:	Thunderclap Newman	Jimmy McCulloch	John Speedy Keen
Real name:	Andrew Laurence Newman	Same	Same
Birthdate:	November 21, 1942	June 4, 1953	October 21, 1947
Birthplace:	Osterley Nursing Home	Dumbarton	London
Personal points:	6ft. 2in; 15st 9lbs green-yellow eyes, brown hair	5ft 4ins; 7st; grey-brown eyes, dark brown hair	5ft 10ins; 11st 4oz; blue eyes, fair hair
Brothers' and sisters' names:	Charles	Jack	Patricia
Present home:	Bordon, Hants.	London	Old Compton Street
Instruments played:	Piano, soprano, tenor and bass sax, kazoo, flute	Guitar	Drums, guitar, piano
Where educated:	Bulstrode Sec. Modern	Scotland and England	Little Ealing Sec
Former occupation:	GPO engineer	None	Lorry driver
Musical education:	None	None	None
First public appearance as amateur:	Alexandra Junior School, 1953	Old folk's home, Glasgow	Elthorne Youth Centre
First professional appearance:	Hanwell British Legion Club	Barrowland Ballroom, Glasgow	Birmingham Redcaps, 1960
TV debut:	BBC-TV "How Late It Is"	"Come Here Often"	"How Late It Is"
Radio debut:	West of England Radio, 1953 as a result of a car accident	Can't remember	Alan Freeman
First important public appearance:	Hour-long solo gig, Ealing Technical College, 1963	———	Has not happened yet
Previous label:	Rapid	None	Pye, RCA, Reaction
Compositions:	Numerous and various	None	"America," "Something In The Air," "Club of Lights"
Biggest influence on career:	Jelly Roll Morton	None	Pete
Hobbies:	Astronomy Ornithology	None	Writing songs, riding
Favourite Colour:	Yellow	Blue	Dark green
Food:	Lobster	Chinese	Talielli
Drink:	Water		Calibri
Clothes:	Functional		Easy straight
Singer:	Peter Dawson Bing Crosby		Too many
Actors/Actresses:	Those who project themselves		Vanessa Redgrave
Bands/ Instrumentalist:	J. R. Morton	Mothers of Invention	Band, Cream
Composer:	Chopin, Elgar	Bach, Zappa	Debussy, Chopin
Groups:	Fleetwood Mac	Who	
Car:	Lancia	Porsche	Bentley Continental
Dislikes:	Industrial towns	None	Headlights at night
Likes:	Women's voices		Anya Hillman, "Track people"
Best friend:	Richard George Seaman	None	Pete
Most thrilling experience:	1400 volts while working with GPO	None	Writing my first number
Musical tastes:	Modern classical	Most things	Varied
Pets:	Kitten named Tania Grass snake	One dog	Kitten, Bloodhound
Personal ambition:	Little chicken farm	None	Don't have a strong one
Professional ambition:	To innovate music	None	Good sounds

COMMON TO ALL

Present disc label: Track
Recording Manager: Pete Townshend
Personal Manager: Peter Rudge
Road Manager: Keith
Musical director: Pete Townshend
Current hit: "Something In The Air"

Rock made Jim and Jack quit

THE two newest members of Thunderclap Newman — Jim Pitman-Avery and Jack McCulloch have both left the group. They made the final decision last Friday and are to form their own outfit.

Jim joined Newman in April as bass guitarist and Jack (brother of lead guitarist Jimmy) was added in June as drummer when Speedy Keen switched to rhythm guitar.

On Monday, Jim told me: "The group was taken off the road last month and it doesn't look as though they'll be back for many moons."

Jack added: "There was too much regimentation. You were told what to play, it was all laid down. If you came up with an idea, it wouldn't be used."

Jim said that there is no bad feeling between him and Jack and the rest of the group for Track Records and the split was amicable.

"We're forming a four-piece group to play soft rock with heavy ideas," he explained "There's going to be a return to motor cycles and that idea, it's already started here from America. We want to play the sort of music associated with it."

Jack pointed out that they had some ideas from the Band and wanted to play "a new development of rock, not the way it used to be."

The working name for the group is Wild Country and all that's needed now is a lead guitarist and keyboard player. Rehearsals can start as soon as the line-up is complete.

A spokesman for Track refused to comment on the situation.—RICHARD GREEN.

FIRST FROM MATTRESS

WHEN Noel Redding said: "Come down to the house and we'll do the review there," I should have known better. True to form, that night was spent in the pursuit of pleasure and we finally got around to listening to the album the following afternoon, just after a yard of ale drinking contest.

By Richard Green

This is the first album from the group Noel formed a few months ago. Noel sings and plays lead guitar, **Neil Landon** is the lead singer, **Jimmy Leverton** plays bass, flute, organ and sings as well, and **Eric Dillon** is the drummer and vibraphone player.

The album is in a sleeve which folds out four ways to reveal scenes of goings on in the trees (not as evil as it sounds) and is released today (Friday) on Polydor 583 056, both mono and stereo, costing 37s. 6d.

Here, then, is a track-by-track review with comments by Noel. Side one opens with . . .

ALL NIGHT DRINKER, which has a Traffic feel about it, largely due, I imagine, to **Chris Wood** being on flute. Neil and Jimmy interchange lead vocals and it's really a dose of heavy rock with some interesting lines.

Noel: There's a change of tempo every twelve bars. Woodie's super.

I DON'T MIND begins with Donald Duck voices that lead into a fast beat. There are heavy drums and the tambourine is evident. Here, the vocal harmonies can be heard to good effect. The song slows down and then starts belting away again. Actually, a very good use of the voices.

Noel: We kept the track going and put the backing track in reverse at the end.

BRIGHT NEW WAY reminds me of of Tim Hardin. The acoustic guitar is soft and the bass is dominant. Though it's slow, it's got a beat and now and then Noel's guitar comes in for a short riff. Neil's voice sounds good and it's a very good track.

Noel: This is folksy. I learned it in five minutes.

PETROL PUMP ATTENDANT I first heard many moons ago and is very commercial. It comes straight in with a crash of drums and a heavy, loud sound. It's the guitars that come over first and there's no letting up, it just goes on and on with a strong beat which at times looks as though it going to overtake the voices.

Noel: I like it; it's very commercial.

MR MOONSHINE ends the first side. I think it's my favourite track — it's slow and not unlike a lot the Beatles have done in this tempo. A lot of echo and, again, the voices come through, harmonising really well. Eric's vibe playing is a strong point.

Noel: Eric is very jazz-influenced. He shows it on this. Neil and I wrote two different parts and just fitted them together. His part is the main idea and mine is where it changes and gets jazzy.

MAGIC FOREST which jogs along and is not too heavy, just pleasant even when it gets faster and lounder. It opens side two. The voices of Neil and Jimmy are softish and there's some good drumming.

Noel: Neil and Jimmy wrote this and I arranged it. It's Mitch on marracas.

WALKING THROUGH A GARDEN has Noel singing and in one of his rare quiet moods. It's very pretty and changes at one stage from minor to major effectively. Jim's on harpsichord which gives a relaxed feel.

Noel: This is a very personal thing to me. Say "fun fairs" to yourself and you'll hear it later in the song. The middle eight's nice.

EVERYTHING'S BLUE is quite a little rocker which switches time suddenly. It's the sort of music that gets your head nodding and your toe tapping. Nice guitar licks, the cymbals do a lot of work and the vocals just blend in.

Noel: I wrote this on the plane to America. I had my blue glasses on.

SHE CAME IN THE MORNING is very, very nice and so sad. Because it's so personal to Neil he gets the most out of it. It pounds and is, at the same time, soft and reflective. Noel's playing bass for a change and it's another song that's a bit Tim Hardin-ish.

Noel: It's about a chick Neil was hung up on who messed him around.

HOW CAN I LIVE is about a lonely man. It jangles, a la early Byrds, and there are good bass lines and a pretty organ sound. One of the best tracks on the album.

Noel: This is dedicated to Brian Jones from me. I wrote it before he died and it's a very sad song. I was with about six people in the house and we were watching TV when the news came on and I just started crying and ran out of the room.

FAT MATTRESS (l to r) NEIL LANDON, NOEL REDDING, ERIC DILLON and JAMES LEVERTON.

LPs page edited by Allen Evans

ROTARY CONNECTION SINGS (Chess Stereo CRLS 4551:)

A REALLY powerful vocal-instrumental group, with an immese volume about it, and ample versatility, in that four of the seven take lead vocals.

Their harmonising and duetting takes on almost operatic height at times (as in Burning the Midnight Oil), and they get a joyous confusion into their versions of Respect (vocal by **Minnie Ripperton** and **Mitch Aliota**), Shine Of Your Love (**Sidney Barnes** vocal) and a little more convention into I've Got My Mojo Working (**Jeremiah** and **Sidney**).

Other titles: The Weight, Tales Of Brave Ulysses, This Town, We're Going Wrong, Salt Of The Earth.

JOHN DAVIDSON (CBS stereo 63678; 37s 6d).

This is the American boy who was hushed-hushed into Britain to make a TV series here with Mireille Mathieu and Aimi Macdonald. He's a fair singer, but not in the Tony Bennett-Andy Williams bracket by any means. However, he must make up in good looks and youth what he lacks in vocal control and know-how. He's got good talent backing him up — producer **Tim O'Brien**, and arranger-conductors **Everett Gordon** and **Joey Scott**. John is versatile — he can turn on the Engelbert tones at times (in Woman Helping Man) and a light voiced gaiety in Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da. This singer will improve and be very big if he sticks to it. **AE.**

Other tracks: Stormy, Little Green Apples, Words, I've Gotta Be Me, Goodnight My Love, Those Were The Days, Didn't We, Both Sides Now, Suzanne.

STELLA AND BAMBOS: A SONG ABOUT A SONG (CBS mono and stereo 63586, 37s 6d).

Stella and **Bambos** have made innumerable broadcasts and are known for their easy approach to Latin music. No amazing hystrionics, just a subtle blend of gentle music and voices which is completely inoffensive and very listenable.

Bambo uses a variety of instruments including the riquinto and the bambolina and the rhythms include the Joropo, Guaracha and Bossa Nova. Of the fourteen tracks, I favoured Pajaro Chogui, How Insensitive, Autumn Concerto, A Man and A Woman and Three Four Latin. —RG.

Other titles: The Sweetest Sounds, By The Way I Still Love You, If I Fell, Meditation, A Song About A Song, One Note Samba, Mulatona, Little Boat and El Manisero.

✶

JERRY JEFF WALKER: MR BOJANGLES (Atco Stereo/mono 228 006; 37s 6d).

The title track of this album was released some months ago, but sadly didn't make any impression on the charts. **Jerry Jeff Walker** penned every number here, and takes in skiffle, rock, country and pure pop in his writing.

There's nothing progressive or unique, but a very easy on the ear sound, uncomplicated backings and lyrics that are meaningful without being deep or thought provoking.

Apart from Mr Bojangles, the tracks that make most impression are I Makes Money,, I Keep Changin', Broken Toys and the seven and-a-half minute The Ballad Of The Hulk. All in all, a pleasant LP for a wet Sunday afternoon. **G. C.**

Other titles: Gypsy Songman, Little Bird, Round And Round, Maybe Mexico, My Old Man.

Live from Jefferson and James Brown

JEFFERSON AIRPLANE: BLESS IT'S POINTED LITTLE HEAD (RCA Victor stereo SF 8019; 37s. 6d).

A LIVE album recorded at the Fillmores East and West where the Airplane regularly put in fine performances.

The recording is generally of a high standard and though I missed some of the refinements a studio might have added to the vocals there is adequate compensation in the subtle meandering sound pictures weaved by the bass and lead guitars, heard at best on Rock Me Baby.

Included are the Donovan song Fat Angel and the group's Somebody To Love, with **Grace Slick's** trilling and thrilling vocals soaring over a backing that dives and roars behind her. NL

Other titles: Clergy, 3/5's Of A Mile In 10 Seconds, The Other Side Of This Life, It's No Secret, Plastic Fantastic Lover, Turn Out The Lights, Bear Melt.

✶

SPANKY & OUR GANG: WITHOUT RHYME OR REASON (Mercury SMCL/MCL 20150. 38s 7d).

Here's the crack American harmony group, with another great album that as likely as not, won't mean a thing over here, except for the already converted. This LP includes beat and ballad, but whatever the tempo, there are the usual intricate harmonies, with voices weaving in between each other.

There's nothing soft about Anything You Choose, a real raver with lively brass in the background. Another feature of the album, which I suggest you go out and buy today, is the almost total lack of breaks between tracks, one number flowing effortlessly into the next.

1.3.5.8 is a really unbelievable song, using numbers for lyrics. Yesterday's Rain is a sweet mid-tempo song, that brings 5th Dimension to mind. With that group happening, and harmony suddenly in, perhaps there is hope for **Spanky** and **Our Gang** after all, I hope so. **G.C.**

Other titles: And She's Mine, Hong Kong Blues, Nowhere To Go, Give A Dam, Leopard Skin Phones, But Back Then, Mecca Flat Blues, Without Rhyme Or Reason, Jane, Since You've Gone.

✶

BEEFEATERS: MEET YOU THERE (Sonet stereo/mono SLPS 1509).

The Beefeaters are Danish, with unpronouncable names, and here giving out with music just as difficult to write about. It is mainly regulation 12 bar blues, with a tight, competent sound, but hardly anything to get excited about. The only track I'll mention is Stormy Monday, a ten minute number on which **Alexis Korner** makes a guest appearance as guitarist and singer. **G.C.**

JAMES BROWN "LIVE" AT THE APOLLO (Volume II) (Polydor 583729/30 stereo play mono, 75s.).

This is a double album of American's hardest working stage pop singer, **James Brown**, recorded during his act. It proves the versatility of this amazing Negro star, from the raving Think opener to the string-backed bluesy I Wanna Be Around. He talks a bit to the New York (Harlem) audience (who shout "Talk louder" because he has a husky, soft speaking voice), then belts into Thanks.

In some 75 minutes playing time on these LPs, he excels in his long, long There Was A Time (about 15 minutes) and his amazing closing down of Please Please Please. Like Sammy Davis Jr., I never feel that Brown comes over as well unseen.— **A.E.**

Other titles: That's Life, Kansas City, Let Yourself Go, I Feel All Right, Cold Sweat, It May Be The Last Time, I Got You, Prisoner Of Life, Out of Sight, Try Me, Bring It Up, It's A Man's Man's Man's World, Lost Someone.

✶

HAPPY WORLD OF TOMMY STEELE (Decca, mono PA 24 stereo SPA 24, 19s. 11d.).

Another of the popular series, representing the refreshing, cheeky Cockney singing style of Tommy Steele. Some of these songs were popular so long ago, they are almost new again, such as Nairobi, Little White Bull an his first big one Rock With The Caveman. More recent are Flash Bang Wallop, Sweet Georgia Brown and The Only Man On The Island. Like Tommy, the Lacking is lively.

Other titles: Handful Of Songs, What A Mouth, Singing The Blues, Marriage Type Love, Hit Record, Shirlee.

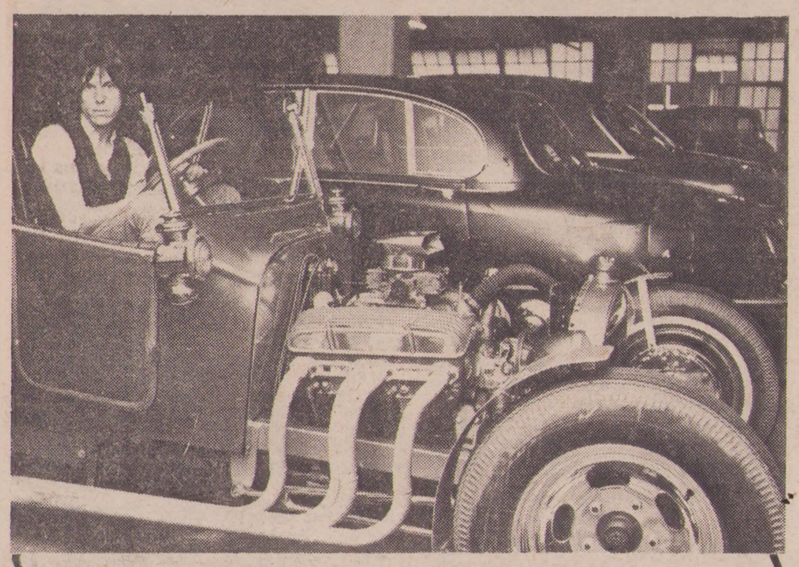
✶

McKENNA MENDELSON MAINLINE: STINK (Liberty stereo LBS 83251, 38s 7d).

An above average blues group with a selection of ten tracks all penned by **Joe Mendelson** who plays acoustic guitar, harmonica and piano and sings. **Mike Harrison** is the bassman, **Tony Volasco** the drummer and **Mike McKenna** an accomplished and exciting guitarist.

Titles: One Way Ticket, She's Alright, Beltmaker, Mainline, Think I'm Losing My Marbles, Drive You, T.B. Blues, Better Watch Out, Bad Woman, Don't Give Me No Goose For Christmas Grandma.

BECK'S GROUP SPLIT MAY STOP MORE WORK WITH DON



JEFF BECK is car mad and his latest prized possession is this monster American model that brings on stunned glances from traffic patrols and the public alike. Our photographer is still shaking like the proverbial jellyfish and stuttering some story about "80 m.p.h. down Oxford Street," after accepting a lift from Jeff on his way home! Says Jeff: "I've never been keen on sports cars because everyone's got them. I like to be different, and I found this when I was in Boston and I met the last owner. It cost me about £1,000 to buy, and about £400 to ship over."

BARABOUT 5.15 p.m., up on the sweltering penthouse floor of Mickie Most's offices in London's Oxford Street, your reporter was becoming somewhat Goo Goo in his wait for Donovan's "Barabajagal" co-star Jeff Beck.

By ALAN SMITH

It had been a two-hour wait on a scorching afternoon and only regular road reports and Cokes supplied by a nice girl named Carole kept me holding on for Our Man Beck and the Massive Monster Motor he's bought and brought over from America at a cost of about £1,400.

When he finally made it, carrying an apology and a reel of plastic hosepipe around his torso which had something to do with petrol spurting out on to the road, it was straight into the chat and the news that "Barabajagal" could probably be the last joint venture between Donovan and himself. And one of the reasons, says Jeff, is that his present group is breaking up.

He told me:

'We're disbanding very shortly. Ronnie Woods is leaving because he wants to play lead guitar instead of bass, and I wish him the best of luck. There's no bad vibes or anything like with most groups.

"We made the decision after our second to last tour of the States. We were all exhausted, the group had seen America, and they've seen enough of it.

"I've now got two name faces to join the group. They're going to be news when they happen, and if I only had the griff on it, if I only had it sinned and sealed, I'd tell you. But until then I'm afraid it's all shtum. You see, both these name faces are under recording contracts at the moment, so they've got to be careful."

Of his current chart hit in partnership with Donovan, Jeff told me: "We recorded 'Barabajagal' about two months ago, and about two weeks after that we finished it off. We did several things at the same session —about four in all. Don just sat there on a stool churning them out and we just followed him.

"I think it's true to say that Don at that session more or less wrote for us. It was all done there and then . . . I mean, 'Goo Goo Barabajagal' — let's be fair! A song with a title like that isn't something you sit at home planning for six months. And I think that, like this one, most good hits are born in the studio.

"Donovan and I don't work together very often. Obviously we just came together because we both record for Mickie Most. And when we did 'Barabajagal,' we were just in there killing an odd weekend. There's no big Donovan-Jeff Beck permanent tie-up thing underlying it.

Rumours

"Of course, in America rumours like that go round like wildfire! They do here, too, except that over there it's a bigger country and stories travel a greater distance to get messed up in.

"Everyone thinks Donovan and I are friends and brothers-in-the-business never-to-part, but this is rubbish.

"The question of us doing shows together have been spoken about, but since then a lot of things have happened — like my group splitting. I think us doing the record was a nice idea, though, and I suppose the future is just an open book.

"I don't really see a follow-up to 'Barabajagal.' It's up to Don. If he wants to do something again, I'm easy. But I wouldn't like to scream at him and say 'Come on, Don, let's do another one.'"

Modesty

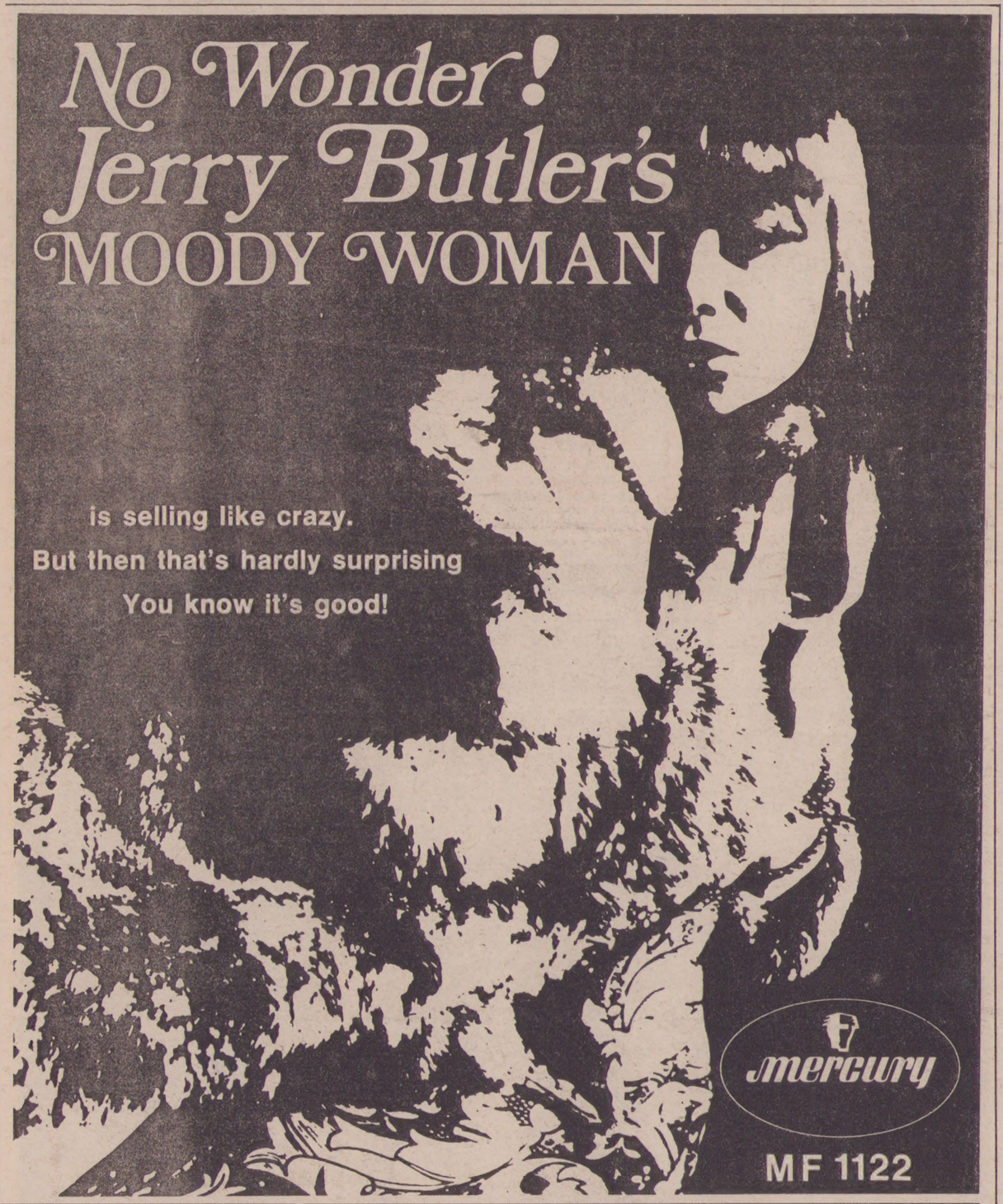
Added Jeff, with commendable modesty: "I think it was a nice gesture for him to let me play on his record. It was very nice of him.

"Don's mind is in a complete . . . he's so detached when he's in the studio. He doesn't come in and say: 'Right lads, I want it this way or that way! It either happens . . . you know, it's incredible.

"You've got to be there in the studio to see him do it. He mumbles a load of gibberish and then all of a sudden it's happening and then the words get more simple.

"At the same session as 'Barabajagal' we did another one of his called 'Bed With Me' and another called 'The Stromberg Twins' which is about two carburettors. Yes, he is in to some harder things lately, but I suppose he realises you've got to move with the times. You can't just sit down and give out flower music forever.

"All his fans still love it, though . . . all those kids know each and every Donovan song, they know all the words, and they're with him right up to the hilt."



NEW to the charts

No group has worked harder for a hit than Fairport says NICK LOGAN

IF it is true that in the final analysis the groups that last are the ones that have done the ground work then Fairport Convention are set for a long stay. Few have worked with such devotion to evolving a music of their own, or so hard towards the recognition that is coming, than Fairport Convention.

Within a few days of reaching the record shops the group's third album, the oddly-titled "Unhalfbricking," had streaked into the top half of the NME LP Chart. And if that isn't enough, their "Si Tu Dois Partir" single from the album gives them their debut in the Top Thirty, entering this week at No. 27.

Now the success they've worked so hard for has come so suddenly it's taken Fairport a little by surprise.

"Yeah, I suppose I'm happy about in," conceded vocalist Sandy Denny when we met last week. "Yeah, I am **very** happy.

"I am quite happy just ambling along towards the big success but when the big success is suddenly there at the other end of the street and getting closer it is a bit frightening.

"I am happy as well to sit and watch people on Top Of The Pops and tear them to pieces like everybody else and then, when somebody good comes on, say: 'This is what we'd like to see.'

"Only when it comes along for you, then it's a bit of a drag," she added, screwing up her nose for emphasis.

Clear voice

The diminutive sandy-haired Sandy was a solo folk singer before she joined Fairport just over a year ago. The possessor of a beautifully clear voice and of a reputation for consuming Scotch in large quantities, she also has a nice line in facial expressions, one of which is a melting smile.

No matter what Sandy said, as she perched on her stool beside a mounting line of empty glasses, I have a feeling that Fairport are more than a little thrilled now that "Si Tu Dois Partir" has become a hit.

That kind of success has been getting nearer for some time now. In the two and a half years since they were formed, Fairport have seen members leave — one die in a crash — and new members step in.

A tragedy like that which took drummer Martin Lamble three months back would have seen the end of many groups. Not Fairport, whose young members put on years in minutes and found new strength. "The accident taught me that I loved them all," said Sandy.

In those years, the group's progress towards distinctly Fairport music has been steady and sure, and what they've arrived at is music that is highly skilled, yet simple at the same time, vital, honest and, most important, full of enjoyment and youthful spirit.

As "Si Tu Dois Partir" would suggest, there's humour there too. The idea for it came some time back one morning at the Middle Earth while the group was "hooting about" with "If You Gotta Go."

"We thought it would be nice to do it Cajun style," said Sandy, "using accordion and violin and singing it in French because Cajun people have this very Americanised French. Martin was playing his sticks on chair backs and it sounded nice.

Tiny box

"When we recorded it, we put Martin in a tiny box studio with two sets of chair backs and a selection of milk bottles. He was having a gas."

That unmusical break towards the end, revealed Sandy, is the effect of Martin knocking chairs and milk bottles flying in his exuberance.

Sandy's opinion of "Unhalfbricking" is that it is much better than the last album "What We Did On Our Holidays."

"It is a lot more natural and not so produced as 'Holidays'," she commented. "The next album is going to be completely different.

"It will be based around traditional British folk music, which we may put new words to if necessary. And we've got a great violin player in Dave Swarbrick to help us."

An example of what Fairport is aiming at is "A Sailor's Life," the traditional folk song arranged by the group on "Unhalfbricking."

For material, they have been digging into the archives of the Folk, Dance And Song Society — the British Museum of folk music.

"We're not making it pop though," added Sandy in case of wrong impressions. "In fact it will be almost straight; only electric. What does it sound like? Heavy traditional folk music."

Fairport vocalist SANDY DENNY.

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TAIL-PIECES by the Alley Cat

U. S. Gold Disc for million sales of **Rolling Stones'** "Honky Tonk Women" . . . . For first time, manager **Col. Tom Parker** really serious concerning British **Elvis Presley** appearance; publicist **Chris Hutchins** appointed to represent him here . . . . Their next singles: **Roy Orbison** "Penny Arcade," **Gary Puckett** and the **Union Gap** "This Girl Is A Woman," **Marvin Gaye** "That's The Way Love Is" and **Temptations** "I Can't Get Next To You" . . . .

Signed by **Herb Alpert's** A & M label — **Judith Durham** . . . . Musical director for **Elvis Presley** in Las Vegas is **Bobby Morris,** former drummer with **Tony Martin** . . . . Is it true **Frankie Vaughan** refused "It's Not Unusual" before **Tom Jones** recorded it? . . . .

How much was **Dell's** hit influenced by **Cilla Black?** . . . . British Lion filming **Deep Purple's** London concert with **Royal Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra** . . . . Long dream for **Max Romeo** . . . .

In South Africa, **Herman's Hermits** replaced at No. 1 by **Leapy Lee's** "Little Yellow Aeroplane" . . . . **Elvis Presley's** cabaret backing group comprises **Jimmy Burton** (guitar), **Jerry Scher** (bass), **Larry Muhoberac** (piano), **Ronnie Tutt** (drums) and **Johnny Wilkinson** (guitar). . . . "Hair" music earning **Nat Shapiro** a fortune . . . .

Surprising hit for **Zombies** in Japan . . . Isn't authoress **Jackie Collins** still hopeful of **Tom Jones** filming her "Stud" book? . . . . **Elvis Presley** followed by **Nancy Sinatra** in Las Vegas, then producer **Bill Miller** hopeful of signing **Perry Como** . . . .

Who said on a **Clodagh** you can see forever? . . . . Next **Barbra Streisand** LP includes compositions by **Burt Bacharach** and **Hal David, Jim Webb, John Lennon** and **Paul McCartney, Paul Simon** and **Buffe Saint-Marie** . . . . Good charity work by **Jim Reeves'** fan club here. . . . .

After watching **Elvis Presley's** cabaret performance, publicist **Chris Hutchins** considers him dated compared to **Tom Jones**. . . .

What will be **D, B. M** and **T's** initial release? . . . Untrue **Yoko Ono** wants it renamed JAPple . . .

Home rented by **Tom Jones** in Beverly Hills . . . . **Tony Bennett** has waxed recent **Sammy Davis** U.S. hit . . . . **Rita Wright** rumoured as **Diana Ross'** replacement when she leaves **Supremes.**

Seriously ill: **Clive Sharp,** a former manager of **Shirley Bassey** . . . U.S. October concerts by **Dusty Springfield** cancelled . . . Excellent **Joe Brown** acting on BBC-2 **Somerset Maughan** play last week . . .

Jess Conrad captained football team including **Tommy Steele, Tony Dalli** and **Troy Dante** which beat d-j XI including **Pete Murray** and **Dave Cash** 7-6 . . . Death of **Russ Morgan,** noted U.S. bandleader . . . Could **Cilla Black's** old nose be going steady with **Ringo Starr's** tonsils? . . .

Infanticipating: **Joan Baez** . . . New disc contract for **Anita Harris** sought by **Mike Margolis** and co-manager **Brian Lane?** . . . Poor ticket sales cancelled **Monkees'** New York concert . . .

Now married: **Marilyn McCoo** and **Bill Davis** — both members of **Fifth Dimension** . . . A son for **Andy Williams'** wife, singer **Claudine Longet** . . . Welsh wrestling star **Tony Charles** a tougher looking **Tom Jones** . . .

Last Sunday, **John Rowles** looked glossy on **David Jacobs'** TV show. . . . **Robert Jackson** (a Birmingham reader) thinks **Joe Dolan** facially resembles **Billy J. Kramer**. . . . Now parents of four children: **Bob Dylan** and his wife. . . .

Henry Vestine has quit **Canned Heat;** likely replacement is **Harvey Mandel**. . . . Memo to **Gordon Mills:** new single from **Tom Jones** long overdue. . . . **Bernard Delfont's** announcement of season by **Sammy Davis** at Talk Of The Town another **Alley Cat** exclusive. . . .

Waxed by **Dionne Warwick,** "Ring Of Bright Water" from **Elvis Presley's** "Change Of Habit" film. . . . First **John Davidson** TV show mediocre; guest **O. C. Smith** also disappointing. . . . Can **Tony Hatch** be persuaded by **Louis Benjamin** to remain at Pye? . . .

Filming in Worcester, **Sammy Davis** visited by **Bill Cosby** last week . . . **Johnny Cash** and singer-wife **June Carter** await happy event . . . **Mia Farrow** devalued her **Frank** last year! . . .

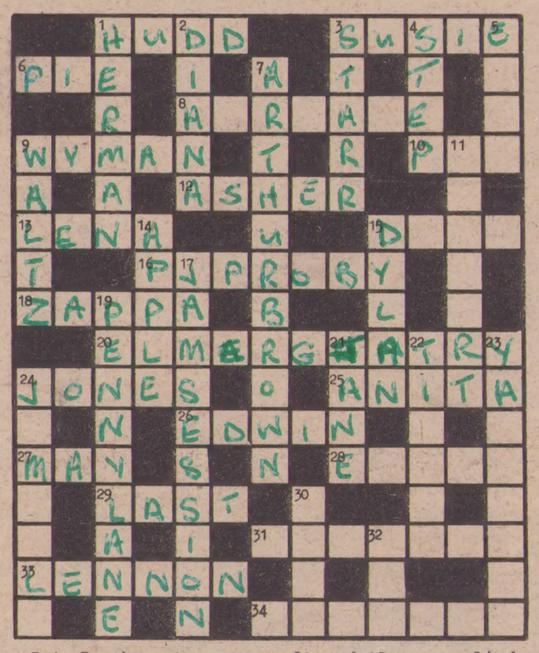
VANITY FARE are climbing with "Early In The Morning" and also getting up then, too, because they have an extra lodger this week — bearded dj DAVE LEE TRAVIS, who has taken over from holidaying Tony Blackburn the very early BBC radio "Breakfast Show," and the boys see that he's up in time.

NME POPWORD

Compiled by Julie Logan, Walthamstow, London

ACROSS

1 Comedian Roy
3 Andy's "girl"
6 From Steve and Pete's oven maybe
8 A bringer of sound to your radio?
9 Top bassman
10 That scandalous organisation of song
12 See 21 down
13 Miss Horne
15 It takes a lot of stick
16 Texan (1, 1, 5)
18 Singer - satirist - revolutionary
20 Late blues star of bottleneck guitar (6, 5)
24 Paul or Jack to name but two
25 Girl singer
26 and 3 Down, Soul star
27 Bee Gee month
28 Bringer of the good times?
29 and 9 down. Engelbert hit
31 Cindy or Mary
33 Plastic Ono star, and much else
34 "Here Comes Da Judge" singer



DOWN

1 He of the toothy grin
2 Paul Anka hit
3 See 26 across
4 ". . . Inside Love"
5 She recorded original "I'd Rather Go Blind"
7 A flaming star, you might say (6, 5)
9 See 29 across.
11 Instrument
14 Label
15 The boy from Hibbing, Minnesota
17 A musical knockabout? (3, 7)
19 Beatles hit (5, 4)
21 and 12 across. Linda succeeded her
22 Small girl
23 Folk singer
24 Former rock star, now hosts own show (3, 4)
30 Locomotive hit character
32 Record term

Answers next week and here is last week's solution

ACROSS: 1 (Elvis) Presley; 5 Dino (Martin); 8 Ena (Sharples); 9 (Terry) Dene; 12 Union; 13 Seven; 14 (Tammi) Terrell; 17 Ashton; 18 Rae; 19 "Days"; 22 Klaus (Voorman); 23 Key; 24 Diary; 26 Tab (Martin—Peddlers); 28 "Maria"; 30 Alma (Cogan); 33 Led (Zeppelin); 34 Carter; 36 Bee Gees; 39 Moody; 42 (Donald) Peers; 43 Blue; 44 (Dave) Dee; 45 City; 46 Nilsson.

DOWN: 1 Paul Anka; 2 "Evil Hearted You"; 3 Lento; 4 Year; 5 (Jim) Dale; 6 Ode; 7 One (Two, Three); 10 Everly Brothers; 11 Engel; 13 (Grace) Slick; 15 End; 16 Roy (Wood); 20 Anita (Harris); 21 Strum; 25 (Noel) Harrison; 27 Bobby; 29 Climb; 31 Leg; 32 Ace (Kefford); 35 (Michael) Aspel; 37 (Duane) Eddy; 38 Eden (Kane); 40 Ola (and the Janglers); 41 Dec (Cluskey).

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Oliver makes the Charts

IT was a record that had to happen eventually Oliver's "Good Morning Starshine," a very melodic song from "Hair," which makes its entry into the NME Chart at No. 28 this week.

Not much is known about Oliver at the moment, but a lot is known about his record producer and mentor Bob Crewe, who has so successfully produced for the Four Seasons for so many years.

But to get back to Oliver whose real name is William Oliver Swofford. He was born in North Carolina in 1945, took up the guitar when he was 15, and divided his schooldays between athletics and singing in the local folk clubs. After graduating from the University of North Carolina, he moved to New York with the Virginians, a group he had formed. They toured with the Mitch Ryder Show for a year before breaking up.

Oliver then got together with a songwriter to form a duo called the Good Earth. That was good while it lasted, about two weeks! Then he bumped into Bob Crewe and it all started happening. "Starshine" only just missed getting to No. 1 in the States, but it notched up a million sales, which can't be bad for a first solo record.

He is currently doing the rounds of the major TV shows, has an album on the way, and is hoping he can cause a stir at least as big as the musical his hit came from.

—GORDON COXHILL

WHO'S WHERE

One Nighters
Week beginning August 15

THUNDERCLAP NEWMAN: Torquay Town Hall (15), Bournemouth Ritz (20)
VANITY FARE: Burley White Buck Inn (15), Waltham Abbey Town Hall (16), Middlesbrough Showboat (19 & 20), Whitley Bay Rex Hotel (21)
MOVE: Exeter County Ground Stadium (15), Scarborough Scene Two (16), Purley Orchid (18), Penzance Winter Gardens (20), Newquay Blue Lagoon (21)
MARMALADE: Scarborough Scene Two (15), Sutton Coldfield Belfry (16), Margate Dreamland (21)
DAVE DEE GROUP: Weston-super-Mare Winter Gardens (16)
SCAFFOLD: Liverpool Cavern Club (18)
ASHTON, GARDNER & DYKE: London Revolution (18)
EDGAR BROUGHTON BAND: London Institute of Contemporary Arts (19)
CLINTON FORD: Skegness Pier (17)

Cabaret
All from August 17

JOE BROWN: Stockton Fiesta for one week
MATT MONRO: Manchester Golden Garter for one week
LOVE AFFAIR: Stockton Tito's doubling Newcastle Dolce Vita for one week.

Summer Seasons

KEN DODD: Bournemouth Winter Gardens
BACHELORS: London Victoria Palace
DES O'CONNOR, ROCKIN' BERRIES: London Palladium
CILLA BLACK, ROY CASTLE: Blackpool ABC
VAL DOONICAN: Blackpool Opera House
FREDDIE & DREAMERS: Blackpool South Pier
FRANKIE VAUGHAN: Bournemouth Pavilion
BARRON KNIGHTS, DONALD PEERS: Skegness Pier
MAX BYGRAVES: Torquay Princess
ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK: Great Yarmouth ABC
KATHY KIRBY: Paignton Festival Theatre
SOLOMON KING: Jersey Water Splash Theatre
SUSAN MAUGHAN, PETER GORDENO: Brighton Dome
VINCE HILL: Great Yarmouth Wellington Pier
MALCOLM ROBERTS: Brighton Palace Pier

Sunday Concerts (17)

BRUCE FORSYTH: Great Yarmouth ABC
BARRON KNIGHTS: Scarborough Floral Hall
HARRY SECOMBE: Bournemouth Winter Gardens

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